

SAJHEDARI BIKAAS: Partnership for Local Development

FY 2016 – Quarterly Report # 9
October – December 2015

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KEY ACRONYMS

ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
CAC	Citizen Awareness Center
CAG	Content Advisory Group
CAR	Community Action Researcher
CBO	Community Based Organization
CDA	Community Development Activities
CDO	Chief District Officer
CECI	Centre for International Studies and Cooperation Nepal
CeLRRd	Center for Legal Research and Resource Development
CLFS	Critical Listening Feedback Session
CM	Community Mediator
CMC	Community Mediation Center
CMU	Community Management Unit
CR	Community Reporter
DADO	District Agriculture Development Office
DAO	District Administration Office
DDC	District Development Committee
DYN	District Youth Network
EA	Equal Access
EDT	Entrepreneurship Development Training
EW	Empowerment Workers
FFN	Fatima Foundation Network
FY	Fiscal Year
GBA	Gender Budget Audit
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GESI	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion
G-NGO	Governance NGO
GoN	Government of Nepal
IDA	Interdisciplinary Analysts
IP	Implementing Partner
IPC	Implementing Partner Committee
IPFC	Integrated Planning Formulation Committees
IVR	Integrated Voice Response
JJMS	Jana Jagaran Mahila Sangh
LDO	Local Development Officer
LGCDP	Local Governance Community Development Program
LYG	Local Youth Group
MCPM	Minimum Conditions Performance Measure
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEP	Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
MoFALD	Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development
NRA	National Reconstruction Authority
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NN	<i>Naya Nepal</i>
OCA	Organizational Capacity Assessment
ODF	Open Defecation Free
OPI	Organizational Performance Index
PETS	Public Expenditure Tracking Survey
PMC	Project Monitoring Committee
PSA	Public Service Announcement

PVDP	Periodic Village Development Plan
RLG	Radio Listeners Group
RTI	Right to Information
SB	Sajhedari Bikaas
SM	Social Mobilizer
SSMK	<i>Saathi Sanga Manka Kura</i>
ToT	Training of Trainers
TWUC	Tharu Women Upliftment Center
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VDC	Village Development Committee
VSMC	Village Supervision and Monitoring Committee
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WCF	Ward Citizen Forum
YI	Youth Initiative
YDS	Youth Dialogue Series

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sajhedari Bikaas (SB) is pleased to share its first quarterly report for Year 4. This report covers activities performed from October 1 to December 31, 2015. Highlights from this quarter include:

- The fuel crisis severely impacted implementation of project activities in both original and recovery districts during this quarter. In original districts, project monitoring and regional events had to be postponed while local activities (community mediation, WORTH meetings, etc.) were able to continue. In recovery districts, the selection of NGO partners in Dolakha, Makwanpur, and Ramechhap was delayed as SB staff could not travel to meet with potential partners to conduct management control assessments. As the quarter progressed, SB hired rental vehicles through contracts that included fuel. Travel in all project districts began to normalize in December, and by the end of the quarter was no longer a serious obstacle to project implementation.
- SB compiled findings from Perception Survey 3 and shared initial results with partners in November and December. An important positive finding was that the proportion of members of Ward Citizen Forums (WCF) in SB project areas that said they participated in the annual Village Development Committee (VDC) planning process increased significantly during the past year (58% in Perception Survey 3 compared with 21% in Perception Survey 2).
- A total of 1,344 new cases were registered with Community Mediation Centers (CMC) this quarter against a target of 1,000. Of the cases, 88.69% were referred to CMCs as a result of the Center for Legal Research and Resource Development's (CeLRRd) social marketing campaigns. Overall, the resolution rate of cases registered averaged 78% against a target of 80%, figures consistent with other community mediation programs in Nepal
- A total of 5,881 members from 226 Phase 1 WORTH groups saved a total of NRs. 9,312,112 through a combination of mandatory savings, voluntary savings, interest earnings, group income, and penalties. Their combined savings of NRs. 4,176,224 was more than three times last quarter's savings of NRs. 1,347,994. This was due to the increase in income of WORTH members' businesses and the addition of new WORTH groups. Empowerment Workers (EW) and literacy volunteers facilitated 1,031 literacy classes which covered topics on village banking and small business management integrated into the curriculum.
- Youth Initiative (YI) formed 115 new Local Youth Groups (LYG) with 1,716 members (678 female, 1,038 male). The LYGs and District Youth Networks (DYNs) designed and implemented 167 Community Development Activities (CDA) involving 5,526 community members (2,890 female, 2,636 male). The projects included infrastructure development, resource conservation, public awareness raising, governance and transparency, and activities during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence (GBV) campaign.
- Equal Access (EA) produced and broadcast a total of 120 radio episodes (13 episodes of *Naya Nepal* [NN], three episodes of *Saathi Sanga Manka Kura* [SSMK], and 104 episodes of *Sajhedari*) through 19 media partners. Content of the radio episodes engaged listeners, particularly members of 175 Radio Listeners Groups

(RLG), on topics including: inclusive development planning, formation of Ward Citizen Forums (WCF), block grant utilization, accountability tools, Minimum Conditions Performance Measurement (MCPM), Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI), and other subjects.

- Governance Non-governmental Organization (G-NGO) partners conducted 1,003 orientations (617 VDCs in original districts and 386 VDCs in recovery districts) which were attended by 20,879 participants (9,784 female, 11,095 male). The orientation covered core tenets of the local-level planning process and the role of WCFs. SB produced a video on the 14-step local-level planning process that was piloted in Dang and, following revisions, distributed to SB partners to screen in all project VDCs.
- SB supported three Gender Budget Audits (GBA), one of Bardiya District Development Committee (DDC) and two in Dang municipalities. The GBAs provided an opportunity for local bodies to self-evaluate their achievements in advancing GESI. The government units committed to allocating funds for GESI activities in their next fiscal year plans. SB will monitor progress during the year.
- The delay in the formation of the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) posed a challenge as local government bodies were reluctant to act on recovery activities in the absence of clear instructions from the central government. Passage of the Bill on Reconstruction of Earthquake Affected Structures in December and the subsequent establishment of the NRA will help to expedite SB's recovery efforts as government officials at the local level are more likely to obtain clear guidelines. While the location of NRA's regional offices has not yet been decided, it is likely that offices will be established in at least two of SB's six recovery districts, improving the prospects for local coordination.

1.0 POLITICAL & DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT

1.1 NATIONAL TRENDS

This quarter was marked by a prolonged economic blockade and fuel crisis, which has subsided but not been resolved as of this writing. Following the promulgation of the Constitution on September 20, 2015, tensions increased between the government and Terai-based political parties. Representatives of the Tharu community and a coalition of four Madhesi parties—the Samyukta Loktantrik Madhesi Morcha—organized protests at various points along the Nepal-India border demanding that the Terai be split into Madhesi provinces, naturalized citizens be permitted to hold the highest government posts, and that representation be based on population rather than geography. In support of the protestors, India advised the Nepal government to take the Madhesi and Tharu demands into consideration and began to impose strict inspections along the border, choking fuel, medicine, and food exports to Nepal. Thousands of Madhesi protesters on both sides of the border blocked major trading checkpoints between India and Nepal, cutting off the supply of goods.

Nepal consistently blamed India for the “undeclared blockade,” while the Indian government maintained that it had not imposed any restrictions. The fuel crisis escalated to such an extent that the price of petroleum products in the black-market in Kathmandu increased threefold. A breakthrough came on December 22nd when the government announced that it was willing to amend the Constitution to address Madhesi demands, mainly proportional representation in government, changes in the electoral constituencies, and establishment of a high-level mechanism to review the re-delineation of the nation’s provinces. At the end of December there were signs that tensions between the two neighboring countries were easing up. Goods were flowing more freely through all checkpoints, except for Birgunj, which accounts for an estimated 60 percent of the total trade volume. Even if a resolution is at hand, Nepal’s economic prospects remain dim for the foreseeable future.

The government’s inability to move the reconstruction bill forward prior to winter was criticized both by national actors and the international community. Throughout the quarter, media reports were rife with warnings of an impending crisis in the mountainous regions. On December 16th, the legislature-parliament finally passed the Bill on Reconstruction of Earthquake Affected Structures, paving the way for the establishment of the NAR. On December 25th, the government also appointed the head of the reconstruction authority. The NAR is expected to unveil reconstruction plans and strategies in January. While a positive step, it came too late to address the winter needs of many earthquake victims.

1.2 OPERATIONAL SPACE

Fuel crisis

Project activities were severely constrained by the fuel crisis in October and November. In

the Mid and Far Western regions routine monitoring and regional events requiring travel were postponed, while local activities such as community mediation and WORTH meetings were able to proceed as usual. In recovery districts in the Western and Central regions, District and VDC consultations were limited by the inability to travel. By December, as black-market fuel became available to the public, the pressure on government fuel outlets was reduced and SB was able to obtain enough fuel to resume travel on a limited basis.

Reconstruction bill

Passage of the Bill on Reconstruction of Earthquake Affected Structures in December and the subsequent establishment of the NRA will help to expedite SB's recovery efforts as government officials at the local level are more likely to obtain clear guidelines. While the location of NRA's regional offices has not yet been decided, it is likely that offices will be established in at least two of SB's six recovery districts, improving the prospects for local coordination.

Transfer of government officials

The hasty transfer of government officials, especially Chief District Officers (CDOs) and Local Development Officers (LDOs), has increased in the aftermath of the earthquakes. Almost all CDOs and LDOs with whom SB consulted six to seven months ago were transferred to different locations this quarter, making coordination challenging. With nearly all recovery staff now recruited and on the ground, SB can play an important role in briefing new officials about programs and priorities.

Legislative advances

On October 1st, the Legislature Parliament amended the law governing gender equality and GBV. Among other measures, the amendment increased the penalties for acid attacks against women, a regular occurrence in project districts. This followed a landmark witchcraft law that was enacted in August 2015 criminalizing physical and mental torture of persons accused of practicing witchcraft. The progressive legal environment will boost the confidence of SB partners to advocate for gender equality through dialogue and collective action. Similarly, on October 6th, the Ministry of Youth and Sports enacted National Youth Policy 2072 and Youth Vision 2025, which provides SB with an opportunity to align its activities to the government's long-term vision.

2.0 ACTUAL VS. PLANNED ACCOMPLISHMENTS¹

2.1 MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E)

2.1.1 Perception Survey 3

Perception Survey 3 measured general perceptions on local governance issues and progress on outcome and impact indicators in SB's six original districts. The survey was comprised of a quantitative component, including a household survey, and a qualitative component based on focus group discussions and key informant interviews. Fieldwork for the survey was completed in August 2015 with data from 2,880 respondents. The methodology was adjusted to make the survey comparable to baseline data, and will serve as a mid-line to reflect SB-influenced outcomes. The findings were shared with SB partner organizations in November and December, and a full report will be submitted to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) during the second quarter. According to the findings, the majority (58%) of the respondents from WCFs in Phase 1 VDCs said they participated in the annual planning process in FY 2015 as compared with 21% the previous year (Perception Survey 2). Of those who participated, the majority (84%) asked questions or made suggestions in the meetings. Among those who voiced their opinions during meetings, 75% believed that the meeting representatives heard their suggestions. These positive findings validate SB's focus on WCFs as a key nexus for citizen engagement in local-level planning.

2.1.2 Recovery Baseline

During this quarter, SB developed plans for a baseline survey of recovery districts to be conducted during the second quarter. The survey will draw from, and build on, methodology evolved in original SB districts. The data will be collected based on select indicators for recovery districts included in SB's revised Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (MEP) approved by USAID in December 2015.

2.1.3 Quarterly Progress Review and Reflection Workshop

From December 22 to 24, SB held a Quarterly Progress Review and Reflection Workshop in Nepalgunj with a total of 41 participants (11 female, 30 male) from all 13 district-based NGO partners and five national partners: Centre for International Studies and Cooperation Nepal (CECI), Center for Legal Research and Resource Development (CeLRRd), EA, Interdisciplinary Analysts (IDA), and YI. Discussions during the first day focused on encouraging and tracking participation in WCFs, effective use of the 14-step planning process charts, inclusion of other SB project components in mobile service camps, GBAs, and CMC sustainability. Participants also discussed coordination between themselves and EA in order to broadcast activities and success stories, and methods to ensure RLG sustainability. The second day included discussions on coordination between SB partners and stakeholders to promote the sustainability of WORTH groups, the integration of the WEG component into the Women and Children Organization and women's networks, and the inclusion of youth as EWs, SMs, and CMC members. CECI presented preliminary

¹ For a detailed comparison of achieved vs. planned activities, see **Annex 4: Progress Against Workplan**.

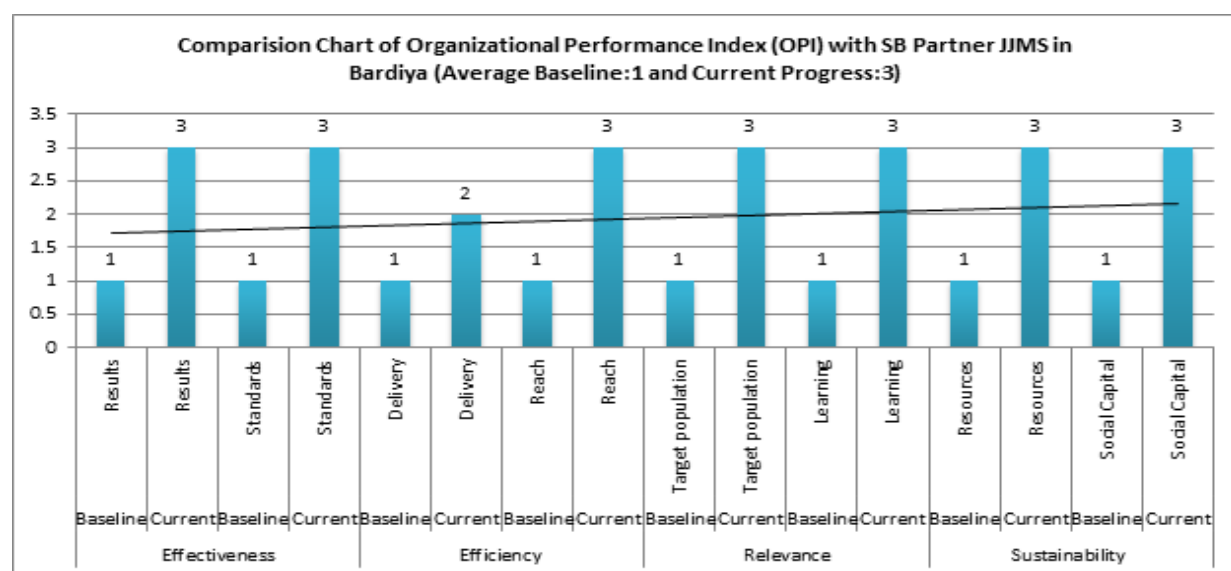
findings from the Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS) study, and IDA presented preliminary findings from Perception Survey 3. MAHA Sanchar's new video on the 14-step planning process. The final day of the workshop included a discussion on better integration of GESI into SB programs. The next review and reflection workshop will take place in February 2016.

2.1.4 Organizational Performance Index (OPI)

From December 14 to 19, SB conducted two OPI workshops with Bardiya partners Jana Jagaran Mahila Sangh (JJMS) and Tharu Women Upliftment Center (TWUC), and also one JJMS WORTH group as recommended by the USAID mid-term evaluation. While baseline data was collected for TWUC (a new partner NGO) and the WORTH group, the OPI for JJMS collected progress data that can be compared with OPI data from January 2015. After the assessment, partners identified their strengths and areas for improvement that included: strengthening measurement and analysis of outcome-level results; improving trust among beneficiaries; promoting local ownership and accountability of accepted policies; ensuring activities address actual needs; embracing learning as a key driver for change from within; and generating resources from multiple sources to ensure sustainability. In addition, training was conducted for eight JJMS EWs to enable them to conduct OPI with WORTH groups. OPI for remaining partner NGOs and EWs will be conducted next quarter.

As shown in Error! Reference source not found. 1, JJMS improved from its baseline score of 1.0 to 3.0 in four domains of organizational performance: effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, and sustainability. The following areas for improvement for JJMS were included in its "three-month" plan: enhancing skills, knowledge, and capacity of its staff; monitoring of financial systems; improved proposal writing skills; maximize IT usage; and learning from other projects.

FIGURE 1: OPI COMPARISON CHART FOR JJMS



2.1.5 Revision of Program Strategies Based on Monitoring Findings

SB utilized the findings of ongoing field-level monitoring activities, workshops, and interactions to adjust program strategies and approaches. Examples of adjustments include:

- Based on observations of VDC budgets where the 35% of block grants mandated for women, children and marginalized populations are often used for general purposes such as road construction, SB supported two municipalities and one District Development Committee (DDC) to conduct GBAs. It is expected that the findings will identify gender inequities in local governments' budget planning processes, and help to institutionalize GBAs in DDCs and municipalities (for details, see *Gender Responsive Budget* in Objective D).
- According to reports of partners and SMs, although CBOs were regularly oriented on the local-level planning process, their knowledge remained weak according to reports by SMs and G-NGO partners. After local consultations, SB installed hoarding boards describing the process in all Phase 2 VDC offices.
- Based on SB's experience during the FY 2014 planning process where it observed that Integrated Planning Formulation Committees (IPFC) were not following the proper methodology, during the FY 2015 planning process it extended training of IPFC members from one to three days resulting in their better understanding of prioritization tools.
- Based on discussions among staff and stakeholders on ways to promote the sustainability of CMCs, CeLRRd proposed the inclusion of WCF and Village Supervision and Monitoring Committee (VSMC) members in the proposed local committees that will oversee CMC operation.

2.2 OBJECTIVE A: ESTABLISH AND IMPROVE THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2.2.1 Result 1: Early Responses that Address the Causes and Consequences of Instability are Institutionalized

SMS-based Conflict Mapping

In consultation with USAID, SB discontinued the SMS-based conflict mapping system at the end of Year 3 in November 2015. The pilot system proved less useful to SB than initially envisioned, as conflict trends reported from one quarter to the next did not fluctuate significantly enough to inform adjustments in program approaches. Follow-up of individual cases was labor-intensive, and there were concerns about the ability to sustain the system after SB's completion. Although cases of conflict may increase in the aftermath of the new Constitution promulgated in September 2015, their incidence can be tracked through other systems, such as Nepal Monitor, which is being administered by the Collective Campaign for Peace.

During its operation from June 2014 to December 2015, the system reported a total of 2,872 conflict incidents. The most common types were interpersonal conflicts (48.7%), followed by gender-based conflicts (27.9%), and resource-based conflicts (14.2%). Of these reports, 30.4% were classified as high intensity, 45.2% as medium intensity, and 24.4% as low intensity. The highest numbers of conflicts were reported from Bardia (31.1%), followed by Kailali (18.3%), Dang (15.4%), Surkhet (12.6%), Kanchanpur (12.4%), and Banke (10.3%).

TABLE 1: TYPES OF CONFLICT REPORTED BY SMS AND INTENSITY, JUNE 2014-DECEMBER 2015

Types of Conflict	High	Medium	Low	Total	Percent
Gender Based Violence	166	406	229	801	27.9
Identity Based Conflict	25	37	22	84	2.9

Caste Based Conflict	35	49	26	110	3.8
Political Conflict	17	26	29	72	2.5
Inter-personal Conflict	503	613	282	1,398	48.7
Resource based Conflict	128	166	113	407	14.2
Total	874	1,297	701	2,872	100.0
Percent	30.4	45.2	24.4	100.0	

Quarterly Conflict Assessments

Saferworld submitted a revision of the seventh thematic assessment in response to USAID's queries in December. The assessment examines youth engagement in local development initiatives in selected districts of Mid and Far Western Nepal. Key findings include: widespread unemployment among youth, making them more prone to engage in deviant behavior; negative outlook towards youth for their age and lack of experience, resulting in disinterest among youth to participate in development initiatives; strong feelings among youth that their prospects in politics are frustrated by an older generation of leaders bent on retaining their power; and increased migration because of the lack of employment opportunities.

Pact modified Saferworld's contract during the quarter to provide for a final tracking assessment to be conducted during the second quarter. This final assessment will examine community perceptions of political, economic, social, and governance trends, including issues related to promulgation of the Constitution, recent violence in the Terai, and the government's response to these ongoing situations. The results of the assessment will be reported to USAID and other stakeholders in March 2016.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

SB currently administers 115 CMCs in Phase 1 and Phase 2 VDCs, with a total of 3,065 trained community mediators (CM). During this quarter, SB also conducted scoping visits and developed plans for the establishment of 60 CMCs in four recovery districts that will be established beginning in the second quarter.

Community Mediation Services

Community mediation services continued in all 95 CMCs established in Year 3. This quarter, 20 new CMCs were established in 20 Phase 2 VDCs of six project districts. Twelve CMCs in Phase 1 areas were handed over to VDCs.

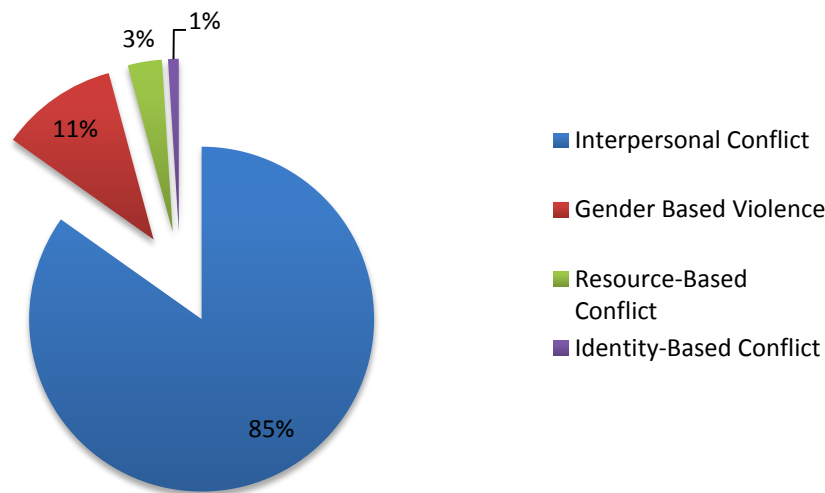
Basic Mediation Training

CeLRRd organized 20 eight-day Basic Mediation Training workshops for 540 (233 female, 307 male) CMs from 20 Phase 2 VDCs in October (4), November (4), and December (12). The training was conducted in local languages and focused on practical mediation to help CMs enhance their skills in reducing the causes of conflict and provide effective short-term resolution mechanisms at the local level. Some changes were made this quarter, and the Training Manual was updated accordingly. The revisions included clarifications on handover materials, and the addition of role playing exercises to maximize CM effectiveness (see **Figure 3: Annex 2** for the caste/ethnicity breakdown of new CMs).

Disputes Mediated

A total of 1,344 new cases were registered this quarter against a target of 1,000. The most common types of cases were interpersonal conflict (85%), followed by GBV (11%), resource-based conflict (3%), and identity-based conflict (1%) (see **Figure 2** below). This pattern is consistent with previous quarters. Overall, the resolution rate of cases registered averaged 78% against a target of 80%, figures consistent with other community mediation programs conducted in Nepal.

FIGURE 2: CASES REGISTERED IN CMCS BY TYPE, OCT-DEC 2015



Social Marketing of Community Mediation Services

In Phase 2 VDCs, CMCs organized four door-to-door social marketing campaigns to increase awareness of community mediation and its importance in peacefully resolving disputes. Two campaigns were carried out in Dang in October and November and two in Bardiya in November and December. The campaigns reached an estimated 5,119 households. These events were organized in VDCs with newly-established CMCs to encourage the registration of cases.

As a result of SB's outreach activities, CMCs continue to receive referrals for cases appropriate for mediation from a range of local stakeholders. Of the 1,344 CMC cases this quarter, 3.94% were referred by the police, 1.71% by political parties, 3.5% by traditional justice practitioners, and 1.64% by VDCs. The number of cases attributable to social marketing was 88.69%.

Orientation for Traditional Justice Practitioners

CeLRRd conducted orientation on community mediation for 102 traditional justice practitioners this quarter. These community leaders have traditionally been responsible for settling disputes through arbitration rather than mediation. CeLRRd held three orientations focused on interest-based mediation approaches. Many of the traditional practitioners expressed interest in adopting mediation techniques, becoming CMs, or referring cases to CMCs. As a result of the training in Year 3, 3.5% of the 1,344 cases were referred by the traditional justice practitioners.

Consultations and Practice Sharing Meetings

SB organized nine VDC consultation meetings in Phase 2 VDCs in Banke, Dang, Kanchanpur, and Surkhet. The meetings introduced the mediation program and dispute resolution process, focused on creating a favorable environment for CM selection using GESI criteria, and clarified the role of the VDC office in sustaining and institutionalizing the mediation program. The meetings have played an important role in obtaining support from VDCs, emphasizing the importance of the community mediation program, and improving coordination with various grassroots stakeholders to ensure CMC sustainability.

CeLRRd also held 32 VDC-level Quarterly Practice Sharing Meetings across six districts.

The meetings provided a space for CMs to share their experiences with trainers and coordinators, and served as a platform to strengthen coordination with other SB partners at the community level. District trainers participated by answering queries on the mediation process. CeLLRd organized 18 district-level practice-sharing meetings across six districts. The meetings provided a common platform for VDC Coordinators to exchange practices and ideas to improve CMC operations.

From December 30 to 31, SB organized a Review and Reflection Workshop in Nepalgunj attended by 29 CeLRRd staff (10 female, 19 male) from six districts. Participants discussed various challenges and developed actionable agendas to be implemented in the second quarter, including the handover of CMCs to VDCs. The forum also decided to track active and inactive CMs (for details please see GESI in Community Mediation section below).

Sustainability of CMCs

Twelve CMCs in three districts were handed over to VDCs during the quarter, and the remaining Phase 1 CMCs will be handed over by the end of February 2016. Three VDCs in Surkhet were allocated a total of NRs. 196,000 for operation costs. Advocacy for resource allocation with the remaining VDCs will continue in the next quarter. The CMC committees that will oversee operations after the handovers will have members from WCFs and VSMCs, ensuring a linkage with local governance mechanisms and thereby sustainability. See Objective C, Sustainability of CMCs.

Coordination with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MoFALD)

This quarter, SB met with MoFALD officials on three occasions to discuss the implementation of CM activities under the Mediation Act, VDC support for CMCs, and development partners' coordination. The MoFALD Partner Coordination Unit expressed interest in holding a regular periodic meeting to support all current mediation activities in districts. SB is coordinating with MoFALD to facilitate support for the first meeting during the second quarter. SB is also in discussion with MoFALD on the issuance/revision of CMC guidelines for VDCs/Municipalities.

GESI in Community Mediation

As part of its GESI strategy, SB emphasizes the inclusion of women as CMs in order to enhance women's access to justice and their participation in the mediation process. An analysis of the disaggregated data for the 1,318 persons who accessed mediation services (first party) to address disputes show that 567 (43%) were female and 960 (73%) from marginalized groups. Among the 567 women who chose to seek mediation services, 401 (70%) were from marginalized groups (see **Figure 4, Annex 2**).

Of the 3,065 CMs trained to date, 1,290 (42%) are women and 1,794 (58%) are from marginalized groups². Since there was room for improvement in ensuring that the gender and caste/ethnicity makeup of the mediators is more reflective of the VDC population, CeLLRd focused on selecting mediators who are women and/or from marginalized groups. Of the 540 new mediators trained this quarter, 233 (43%) were women. However, Hill Brahmin/Chhetris at 42% continued to be over-represented.

As result of CeLLRd's efforts to be more GESI-responsive in the selection of CMC coordinators, 13 out of 20 (65%) new CMC coordinators are female. However, seven of these 13 female CMC coordinators are Hill Brahmin/Chhetri. The total number of CMC Coordinators is 115, out of which 39 (34%) are female and 62 (53%) from marginalized groups. A deeper analysis shows that 18 (46%) of the 39 female CMCs are Hill Brahmin/Chhetri (See **Figure 5, Annex 2**). CeLLRd will prioritize the participation of women from marginalized groups in the CM management committees to balance this lack of

² Excluding Hill Brahmin/Chhetri, Terai/Madhesi Brahmin/Rajput and Newar.

inclusion.

As CMs from historically marginalized groups do not generally receive equal opportunities to practice their skills, SB has been working with CeLRRd to assess and improve the rate of their selection on mediation panels. In this quarter, 1,540 CMs were involved in mediating disputes. Six hundred and one of these CMs (39%) were female and 883 (57%) were from marginalized groups. CeLRRd is in the process of cleaning and compiling aggregate disaggregated data on the “activeness” of CMs, such as that for Bardiya district included in **Tables 6-9, Annex 2**. Complete data and analysis will be included in the next report. The analysis will form the basis of recommendations for ensuring that CMs, in particular those who are from marginalized groups, are more active in mediating disputes.

2.2.2 Result 2: Enduring Solutions to the Problems that Drive Conflict are Adopted

Women’s Economic Groups (WORTH)

This quarter, SB continued to support women’s economic groups utilizing Pact’s WORTH model, an integrated literacy-led approach for women’s empowerment. The 5,881 members (all female) of 226 Phase 1 WORTH groups represent a diverse range of castes and ethnicities (see **Figure 6, Annex 2**). Following VDC/DDC consultation meetings and WEG assessments conducted this quarter, 222 WORTH groups will be formed in 54 Phase 2 VDCs/Municipalities next quarter, with savings activities underway by March 2016.

Literacy Classes

A total of 352 literacy volunteers, with support from 29 EWs, facilitated 1,031 literacy classes in Phase 1 VDCs. Each group held an average of three classes per month, with topics such as village banking and small business management integrated into the curriculum. Customized literacy materials, such as picture cards and books for different reading levels, included: *Our Group* (basic literacy), *Selling Made Simple* (guidelines for starting small businesses), and *The Road to Wealth* (independent study for advanced readers). Most group members started to read simple words and numbers with the help of *Our Group*, a tailor-made basic literacy book that combines learning alphabets and words with practical skills for group facilitation. Group members also learned to write their names and addresses, and how to read and check their savings status in their passbooks. The literacy classes for Phase 1 VDCs will be completed in August 2016. The literacy classes for Phase 2 VDCs will begin in May 2016.

Savings and Loans

As of December 2015, 5,881 members from 226 Phase 1 WORTH groups had saved a total of NRs. 9,312,112 through a combination of mandatory savings, voluntary savings, interest earnings, group income, and penalties. A total of NRs. 4,176,224 was saved this quarter compared to NRs. 1,347,994 last quarter. The increase is attributed to income from businesses and an increase in the number of Phase 1 groups. WORTH groups issued a total of 2,023 loans to 2,023 members this quarter totaling NRs. 7,850,063 as compared to 1,368 loans given to 1,343 members last quarter totaling NRs. 4,588,949. The 58% increase in the average loan size from NRs. 3,880 to NRs. 3,097 is due to the increase in the savings pool, as well as the growing experience of group members in small businesses. Members used loans for a variety of purposes, including animal husbandry, mushroom farming, candle making, and snack production.

Training of WORTH Groups

WORTH NGO partners conducted 83 micro-enterprise trainings this quarter that were attended by 2,185 Phase 1 WORTH group members. The trainings covered methods for identifying business opportunities, business concept planning, risk analysis, marketing, pricing, and salesmanship. Complimentary to these trainings, partners organized 20

trainings on skill-building packages (e.g., for mushroom farming) for 485 participants. At the end of the training, WORTH group members received loans from group savings and started 202 micro-enterprises. Although the total income from micro-enterprises will not be computed until the second quarter, the following are examples of women who have earned profits from their micro-enterprises:

- Fulkumari Chaudhary of *Navdeep Mahila Samuha*, Kailali opened a cosmetic shop by taking a loan of NRs. 10,000. She now earns NRs. 500-700 a day.
- Prekshya Chand of *Srijanshil Mahila Bachat Samuha*, Kanchanpur, following a two-day Pig Farming Training, received a loan of NRs. 14,000. She now has 14 pigs and an estimated annual income of NRs. 20,000.
- Sunita Chaudhary of *Naulobihani Mahila Bachat Samuha*, Kailali received NRs. 4,000 from the group to start a chowmein/noodle business. She now earns NRs. 400-500 a day.

WORTH NGO partners also provided training to WORTH groups on management efficiency and sustainability. This quarter, SB conducted one Management Committee Training in December for 32 new WORTH group committees in Dang. The training covered the roles and responsibilities of management committees and village bank accounting systems. SB also conducted 32 Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) refresher trainings for 1,041 WORTH group members in Surkhet, Kailali, and Kanchanpur to identify strengths and weaknesses of organizational management and develop 100-day work plans. In addition, SB conducted two Linkage, Networking, and Sustainability trainings for 62 participants in Banke and Surkhet as described in Objective C, Result 3. Finally, SB trained 96 new literacy volunteers to facilitate literacy classes for the new WORTH groups. See **Figure 7, Annex 2** for the total number of participants in all trainings.

WORTH Group Assessments

SB conducted WORTH group assessments in 48 Phase 2 VDCs/Municipalities in November and December. A total of 2,387 existing groups were included. The activity was designed to map potential WORTH groups, identify local resources and group needs, and determine market access and the potential for linkages with government agencies and micro-finance institutions. The assessment findings are being shared with VDC representatives prior to the formation/reformation of Phase 2 WORTH groups during the second quarter.

WORTH NGOs conducted 966 Result Surveys of 39 Phase 1 WORTH groups in 12 VDCs in Surkhet. The surveys collected information on the household structure, economic status, social status, and access to local resources of the group members. This will help in monitoring the groups' progress over time. The Result Surveys for the remaining Phase 1 groups will be conducted next quarter.

Coordination with Other Stakeholders

WORTH NGOs held six District-level consultation meetings with 242 (80 female, 162 male) key stakeholders, introducing the WORTH program strategy, modalities, and benefits. The meetings increased understanding among government officials and local stakeholders of the WORTH program, laying the groundwork for coordination and support during program implementation. Representatives from the District Administration Office (DAO), DDC, Women Development Office, international NGOs, NGOs, Civil Society Organizations (CSO), cooperatives, and political parties attended the meetings. Many groups as well as NGO partners have reported that because of these meetings government officials are more accessible to them when approached. Similarly, 44 VDC-level consultation meetings were attended by 1,641 (516 female, 1,125 male) VDC secretaries, representatives from local political parties, CBOs, local NGOs (LNGO), and local user groups.

Advocacy Activities

In coordination with VDC offices, WORTH NGOs organized and supported 18 events to commemorate the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV campaign from November 25th to December 10th. A total of 1,095 people (820 female, 275 male) attended the events, which included street dramas, rallies, interactions with stakeholders, petitions, speech competitions, song competitions, and a media dialogue program with stakeholders.

GESI in WORTH

WORTH NGOs will form/reform new groups in Phase 2 VDCs/Municipalities on the basis of the WEG assessment that was completed this quarter, such that SB is reaching out to the most marginalized women in terms of caste, ethnicity, and their access to income and livelihood options. The groups also provide a source of credit for women from marginalized communities who often do not have collateral to access loans from other financial institutions. Of the 2,023 loans issued this quarter, 1,560 loans (77%) were mobilized by women from marginalized groups. A total of 71.7% of the 2,185 WORTH group members who received micro-enterprise trainings this quarter were from marginalized groups,³ slightly less than their percentage membership in the groups (73% of 5,952 WORTH group members are from marginalized groups). Further, out of 485 members who participated in 20 different skill-building trainings, 405 (83.5%) were from marginalized groups. Out of 96 literacy volunteers trained this quarter, 60 (62%) were from marginalized groups. WORTH groups continued to be involved in social campaigns, WCFs, and the local planning process as discussed above under advocacy activities and below under Objective B. In the next quarter, SB will also analyze disaggregated data for members who have started microenterprises as a result of training received.

Youth in Development

During this quarter, SB's partner YI continued to implement a range of activities to promote youth participation in local development and governance processes. In addition, SB engaged 10,532 youth (8,248 female⁴, 2,284 male) through CMCs, RLGs, and WORTH groups.

Phase 2 Start-up Activities

YI facilitated the remaining five VDC-level consultation meetings in Phase 2 VDCs in Bardiya and Dang districts with a total of 172 participants (58 female, 114 male), including VDC secretaries, political leaders, local CBOs, teachers, youth representatives, and other community members. In the meetings, YI shared information about SB's youth program and solicited community support. YI also participated in VDC-level consultation meetings organized by G-NGOs and WORTH NGOs in three Phase 2 VDCs in Bardiya.

YI either formed or re-formed 22 new LYGs in Phase 2 VDCs with 308 members (121 female, 187 male) and 22 new CMUs with a total of 314 members (89 female, 225 male). To date, YI has formed 115 LYGs with 1,716 members (678 female, 1,038 male) and 115 CMUs with 1,716 (539 female, 1,177 male) members.

Following the formation of Phase 2 LYGs, YI conducted five three-day Life Skills Trainings for 119 participants (65 female, 54 male). The topics included problem solving, decision-making, critical and creative thinking, communication skills, leadership, self-awareness, and stress management. The trainings provided a space for youth to examine their potential and learn how to engage positively in their communities. The participants committed to sharing their learning with their peers during the monthly LYG meetings. During the second quarter, YI will utilize a questionnaire to track if, and how, the skills learned during the training have been utilized.

Local Level Planning Process Training for LYG Members

³Excluding Hill Brahmin/Chhetri, Terai/Madhesi Brahmin/Rajput and Newar.

⁴The numbers are high due to the all-female membership of WORTH groups.

To facilitate the effective participation of LYG members in the local planning process, YI conducted six three-day trainings on the process for 141 participants (68 female, 73 male) from Phase 2 VDCs. After receiving this training, a total of 285 LYG members (95 female, 190 male) participated in the planning process in 36 VDCs by advocating development projects including skills training for youth, youth information centers, and training on women's reproductive health. Thirty-four out of 167 CDAs this quarter focused on the role of youth in the local planning process, mainly through street dialogues and interaction programs. During December, YI disseminated information on the ongoing planning process through Facebook and sent SMS messages to LYG and DYN members encouraging their further participation. A total of 183 LYG members (60 female, 123 male) are also members of WCFs, while 71 LYG members (18 female, 53 male) are members of the IPFCs in their VDCs.

National Youth Service (NYS) and Internships

Twelve NYS volunteers (5 female, 7 male) were appointed for five-month assignments with VDC offices during Year 3. The volunteers helped conduct day-to-day VDC tasks such as managing libraries, preparing official documents, and generally assisting VDCs in the provision of routine services. Of the 12 volunteers, ten completed their terms in November 2015, two will finish in January 2016, and the VDCs have extended the terms of the remaining two. YI will hold a meeting with VDC secretaries next quarter to determine their areas of need, and will follow up with recruitment and subsequent placement of future NYS volunteers.

Community Development Activities

This quarter, LYGs and DYNs designed and implemented 167 CDAs involving 5,526 (2,890 female, 2,636 male) local community members. In addition, each LYG conducted at least one CDA in their respective VDC. During their monthly meetings, LYG members identified pressing issues in their communities and designed and implemented activities involving infrastructure development, resource conservation and renovation, public awareness raising, governance and transparency campaigns and discussions, and commemorating the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV campaign. Moreover, LYGs had the opportunity to implement activities that address local community needs and coordinate and collaborate with local stakeholders. For example, the LYG in Binauna VDC, Banke mobilized local youth, political leaders, WCF members, and women from the community to install a culvert on a local road.

Bi-Monthly Youth Discussion Series (YDS)

DYNs facilitated 18 YDS meetings attended by a total of 528 youth (211 female, 312 male, 5 third gender). Topics included: youth's role in harmonious festivals; *Youth Vision in 2025: A 10-year Strategic Plan of the Government of Nepal*; and the role of youth in the local planning process. During the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV campaign, YDS panels included representatives from Women and Child Development Offices, Women and Children Service Centers of the Nepal Police, Blue Diamond Society, and Women's Rehabilitation Centre Nepal (WOREC).

Entrepreneurship Tracking

With the support of YI, participants from Year 3 Entrepreneurship Development Training (EDT) have started to mobilize local resources to acquire further training and skills or to expand their businesses. This quarter, the LYG in Dharapani VDC, Surkhet organized an orientation program on poultry farm management as part of their CDA. An LYG member and EDT participant from Tarigaun, Dang held a mushroom farming training in coordination with the DAO. YI also assisted this person to develop a proposal to the DAO requesting funding for beekeeping. As a result, he successfully obtained a subsidy of NRs 200,000 under the DAO's "youth-focused program." Similarly, YI supported an EDT participant to successfully apply for a bank loan to expand his retail shop in Manuwa VDC, Kailali.

Coordination with Other Stakeholders

YI conducted seven VDC-level Dialogues (VLDs) in Bardiya, Dang, and Kailali districts, which served as a platform for multiple stakeholders to identify and discuss challenges and solutions related to youth issues. A total 219 people (72 female, 147 male), including political and social leaders, local stakeholders, user groups, youth, and women participated in the VLDs. Among the issues raised were: youth and drug abuse; trafficking of women; and, youth participation in the local planning process.

YI Advocacy Activities

LYG members engaged in a variety of advocacy activities in addition to their involvement in the local planning process. These included activities marking the 16 Days of Activism against GBV campaign, and anti-corruption awareness by the Banke DYN through posters with “*ma bhrastachar gardina*” (meaning “I don’t do corruption”) posted at the District Admiration Office, the District Court, and the District Land Revenue Office.

On December 10th, International Human Rights Day, YI mobilized LYG members and volunteers to participate in a peaceful rally in Kailali district organized by the National Human Rights Commission, the District Department of Women and Children, and Informal Sector Service Center (INSEC). LYG members also held a candlelight vigil in Bardiya in cooperation with several other organizations. In Banke, YI organized a “handprint” campaign to mark the day.

LYG members displayed placards at the DAO in Banke and Bardiya advocating for peaceful dialogue with the Madhesi and Tharu communities. The program was inspired by YI’s Dialogue for Peace campaign initiated in Kathmandu during which youth displayed placards in front of the Prime Minister’s Residence at Baluwatar advocating for dialogue between the government and protesting groups.

Other advocacy activities included:

- LYG members of Kusum and Samserganj VDCs, Banke advocated for improvement of the social security allowance distribution system by posting beneficiary lists on the VDC premises and volunteered their help during the actual distribution.
- The Baise Bichawa LYG, Kanchanpur organized a discussion program during which members shared posters and pamphlets related to the Open Defecation Free (ODF) campaign and sanitation issues.
- LYGs in Phattepur, Belhari, and Sonpur VDCs, Banke, and Shankarpur VDC, Kanchanpur supported VDC offices in organizing discussion programs on ODF in support of the government’s mandate to declare their VDCs as ODF.
- Hekuli LYG in Dang installed a suggestion box on the VDC premises.

Youth Across SB Components

In addition to its work with youth in LYGs, DYNs and RYNs, SB also engaged 10,532 youth (8,248 female, 2,284 male) through CMCs, RLGs, and WORTH groups. Of these 21% were CMs, 32% RLG members, and 47% WORTH group members (see **Table 10-11 and Figure 8, Annex 2**). A comparison with population data of SB’s six original districts from Census 2011 demonstrates the success of SB’s efforts to ensure the representative levels participation by marginalized youth in SB-formed groups. The more than proportionate representation of Hill and Terai/Madhesi Dalits, especially females, is noteworthy given that Dalit women face multiple levels of discrimination and exclusion.

GESI in Youth Activities

YI’s efforts to increase the number of women and youth from excluded communities in its activities have had mixed results. YI was able to ensure that numbers of male and female participants in Life Skills Training (55% female), local planning process training (48% female), and community development activities (52%), were almost equal. This is especially

commendable given that only 40% of LYG members are female. However, Hill Brahmin/Chhetris continued to be overrepresented in many YI activities, e.g. 39% in training on local level planning, and 57% in YDS. Furthermore, 120 (71%) of the LYG members who submitted proposals during the local planning process were male, 123 (68%) of the LYG members who were also members of WCFs were male, and 39% were Hill Brahmin/Chhetri, indicating that YI's efforts to increase participation of youth in local planning fell short of the mark. Little improvement has been seen in the gender inclusivity of leadership positions in LYGs in Phase 2 in comparison to Phase 1. LYG coordinators continue to be predominantly male (88% in Phase 1, and 82% in Phase 2) and Hill Brahmin/Chhetri (58% in Phase 1, and 47% in Phase 2). SB is working with YI to increase the overall inclusiveness of leadership within LYGs, mainly by making the upcoming selection of LYG mobilizers in the next quarter more inclusive by setting targets in consultation with Pact's GESI Manager.

YI will use the addition of Phase 2 LYGs as an opportunity to re-form DYNs and the RYN to make them more gender-responsive and socially inclusive. SB will review each training schedule to ensure that content on GESI is included in all future capacity building efforts.

Media in Development

This quarter, SB supported the production and broadcast of 120 radio episodes (13 episodes of *Naya Nepal* [NN], three of *Saathi Sanga Manka Kura* [SSMK], and 104 of *Sajhedari*) via 19 media outlets. It also engaged listeners, primarily through Radio Listeners' Groups (RLG), in discussions and participatory action around project themes.

Radio programming

EA produced 13 episodes of NN and three episodes of SSMK that were broadcast by 18 local partner FM stations and Radio Nepal (see **Table 12, Annex 2** for topics discussed in NN and SSMK radio shows this quarter). To monitor the technical and programmatic quality of NN radio programs, EA conducted a Critical Listening Feedback Session (CLFS) where seven staff (3 female, 4 male) from YI, CeLLRd, ENRUDEC, and the Fatima Foundation Network (FFN) gave feedback on an NN episode on local efforts to minimize domestic violence. The CLFS scored NN at 90% compared to 80% last quarter.⁵ The inclusion of local indigenous music played at the beginning of the program and the balance of male and female representation increased the episode's score. While the majority of the feedback was positive, EA will incorporate additional suggested topics in future episodes, including economic and political barriers to combat domestic violence, and information on free legal services available to women experiencing violence.

Local production partners produced 104 episodes of the half-hour show *Sajhedari*, which were broadcast by 16 partner FM stations (see **Table 12, Annex 2** for topics discussed in *Sajhedari* radio shows this quarter). Twenty-nine of the episodes were produced in the Tharu language, five in Awadhi, four in Rana-Tharu, three in Doteli, and one in Achhami.

EA collaborated with partner stations to conduct eight local CLFSs on *Sajhedari* episodes, attended by 69 (28 female, 41 male) community members, SB partner representatives, radio producers, and RLG members. Each CLFS evaluated one randomly selected *Sajhedari* episode. Three stations scored 90% and five 80%. With continued feedback and technical support, EA mentored partner stations with training on program format, presentation, inclusion of voice, and program quality improvement.

The 120 radio episodes included recordings of community members from project areas collected by EA's network of 15 CRs (6 female, 9 male) and through the listener call-in

⁵ Participants in CLFS use a score card reviewed by SB's M&E team that scores episodes on the format, presentation, topics, inclusion of voice, and technical aspects. EA uses these scores to monitor the effectiveness of radio programs and as points for follow up with local producers in mentoring and support.

system, Integrated Voice Response (IVR). Similarly, EA collected feedback through its network of 34 CARs (18 female, 16 male), and through IVRs and SMS messages submitted by listeners. Listeners submitted a total of 928 SMS and 449 IVR voice messages. They requested that program topics include: income generation, opportunities in the private sector, MCPM, nutrition, poverty alleviation, and the constitutional process. Feedback provided was discussed during Content Advisory Group (CAG) meetings and will be adapted in future programming.

EA coordinated with local and regional partners to produce 17 radio episodes, including an episode of NN and SSMK, and a Public Service Announcement (PSA) to mark the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV campaign. The NN episode featured local efforts to reduce GBV, while the SSMK episode included family acceptance of the LGBT community, and a dialogue series on GBV conducted by YI. The episodes also included voices of local thematic experts, including a Women Development Officer, a DDC Information Officer, and a Nepal Police Officer.

Advisory Groups

To ensure well-informed content, EA and partner FM stations sought advice and input from national and local CAGs. EA held a national CAG meeting in October to finalize themes for central-level radio programs (NN and SSMK). Staff from SB partner CeLRRd; SB's Conflict Mitigation Manager; the MoFALD/Local Governance Community Development Program (LGCDDP) Communication and Documentation Officer; and a Fiscal Decentralization Expert from the Local Bodies Financial Council attended the meeting. The meeting finalized topics to be included in upcoming episodes. Partner FM stations conducted nine local CAG meetings that were attended by 110 representatives (41 female, 69 male) from SB partners, VDCs/Municipalities, and FM stations.

Production and Broadcast of PSAs

EA produced and broadcast two PSAs on subjects ranging from GBV to the local planning process and broadcast them through 18 partner stations. The PSA on GBV marked the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV campaign and focused on provisions included in Government of Nepal (GoN) laws and regulations related to domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual harassment in public places. The PSA on local planning encouraged marginalized persons and communities to participate in the process to mobilize resources from VDCs for their development priorities. After feedback from G-NGO partners, EA developed the local planning PSA in Awadhi and Tharu to be broadcast during the first half of January 2016.

TABLE 3: PSA TOPICS AND NUMBER OF BROADCASTS

S/N	PSA Topic	# of PSAs Produced	Date Produced	# of Languages	# of Stations Broadcasting	Dates Broadcast	# of Broadcasts
1	GBV and 16 Days Campaign on VAW	1	November	Nepali	18	Dec 1-10	1,800
2	14 Step Planning Process	1	November	Nepali	18	Dec 1-31	5,400

Radio Listeners' Groups

SB continued to support 175 RLGs with 6,025 members (2,367 female, 1,258 male; 100 Phase 1 RLGs, and 75 Phase 2 RLGs). RLGs conducted 708 bi-monthly meetings with groups led by EA-trained facilitators. Through RLGs, members engaged in discussion and

participatory action on the issues raised in radio programming. RLG members sent feedback on radio episodes directly via SMS, or via CARs using *Commcare*, a mobile Information Communication Technology platform. See **Table 13, Annex 2** for a sample of RLG feedback.

EA awarded micro-grants of approximately NRs. 44,000 each to 25 RLGs; three focused on marginalized groups, four on women, five on good governance, six on youth, and seven on other themes. In total, the micro-grants had 600 (432 female, 168 male) direct beneficiaries. The micro-grants provide RLGs an opportunity to practice planning and management of their own projects so that they are able to start planning and proposing development projects during the local planning process as described in Objective B.

Capacity Building of Radio Partners

EA conducted a three-day media management and operations training in Bardiya district to continue to build the capacity of partner FM radio stations. A total of 17 participants (2 female, 15 male) including station managers, board members, and executive directors of 17 stations attended the training. The training covered media management, management structure, media marketing, human resource development, local development, broadcasters' code of conduct, quality radio programs, and GESI. The sessions on quality radio programming focused on participatory content generation, accountability, inclusion, RTI, respecting the community voice (conflict sensitivity in reporting and Do No Harm principles), and the role of the media in civil society. A total of 82% of the participants reported that they were confident to apply their learnings to their work. For example, as a result of the training, Radio Tikapur FM in Kailali formulated a GESI policy for the station that guides employees "to pay special attention towards making radio programs in various languages, hiring human resources from diverse groups, and making the radio management board inclusive."

Training of Women and Indigenous Journalists

By the end of this quarter, female journalists trained in May 2015 had written and produced 16 media stories. EA finalized five media stories written by indigenous journalists trained in June 2015 and is in the process of finalizing an additional 15 stories (see **Table 14, Annex 2** for details of the media stories). Many of the journalists were delayed in producing and submitting their stories due to unsafe travel conditions and travel restrictions presented by the fuel crisis and political unrest in the original districts.

Roundtable Discussions and Broadcast

EA organized six roundtable discussions to engage government officials, CSOs, and citizens involved in local development and planning. The themes were "New Municipalities" and "MCPM as it relates to the local planning process." These events included 313 participants (147 female, 166 male) including DDC representatives, VDC secretaries, political party representatives, youth and student leaders, WCF members, RLG members, and others (see **Figure 9, Annex 2** for a caste/ethnicity breakdown). Video and audio recordings of the discussions were edited and will be broadcast through local televisions and partner FM stations in January 2016.

Media Workshops

Building on their success in Year 3, EA conducted four media consultation workshops in Bardiya, Kailali, Kanchanpur, and Surkhet districts during the quarter. Eighty-seven participants (22 female, 65 male) from different SB implementing partners (IP) and local government representatives from DDCs and VDCs attended the consultations. Participants discussed how to better coordinate media use to expand their reach to beneficiaries and maximize impact of SB activities. The workshops focused on the process of media program production, coordination with CRs and CARs, and producing a list of SB activities to highlight in local radio programming.

EA also conducted four two-day trainings for government officials in Banke, Dang, Kailali, and Surkhet districts on how to utilize media to achieve social change and foster participation. Fifty-six participants (six female, 50 male), including 35 VDC Secretaries, two Municipality Executive Officers, and a DDC Information Officer, learned about the use of media, specifically radio, to inform, educate, and empower communities by disseminating vital information and key updates.

EA conducted six workshops to promote the use of social media and the Internet as advocacy tools for 171 youth (88 female, 83 male) from YI's LYGs, Youth Council members, CMs, WORTH members, RLG members, CARs, and CRs. The participants were encouraged to write for www.meroreport.net, an interactive online platform for citizen journalism, to post firsthand accounts of good governance and local development that are otherwise underreported by the mainstream media. As an immediate result of these workshops, 99 new members joined *MeroReport* and over 70 blog posts have been written by members from SB districts since the workshops took place in October and November 2015. The blogs covered issues concerning VDC budgeting, the role of civil society, and RTI.

GESI in media activities

Among the 3,625 members of the 175 RLGs formed, 65% are female and 66% are from marginalized groups (see **Figure 10, Annex 2**). The two PSAs included content on GoN laws and regulations related to GBV in the context of the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV campaign, and the importance of marginalized group members participating in local-level planning. Following feedback from G-NGOs, the latter PSA was produced in Awadhi and Tharu languages and aired in the first half of January 2016. During the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV campaign, SB produced and broadcast 17 radio episodes raising awareness on GBV, which included an interview with Dr. Manju Tuladhar, GESI Adviser of USAID/Nepal.⁶ Of these episodes, one was produced in Awadhi and two in Tharu. Of 104 episodes of *Sajhedari*, 42 (40%) were produced in local languages as discussed above. Partner FM stations continued to include community voices in local languages in various episodes.

There was a significant increase in both total participation and female participants in EA events this quarter. In total, 623 persons (260 female, 363 male) participated in 20 EA events, compared to 82 participants (45 female, 37 male) last quarter. Responding to feedback from SB, EA focused on improving the participation of women and marginalized group members in their events. For example, 88 female youth (51%) of 171 total participants attended the social media workshop, while female participation in the media consultations (25%) and training for government officials (12%) were very low since participants were pre-determined by the composition of the targeted groups. EA continues to work in furthering social inclusion where possible. For example, 72 (42%) of youth in the social media workshop were Hill Brahmin/Chhetri.

EA continued to support Pratibodh FM and Gurbaba FM radio stations run by members of the Hill Dalit and Tharu communities, respectively. To address the lack of gender and social inclusion among partner station managers and producers (predominantly male Hill Brahmin/Chhetri) EA included a session on GESI and media during the training on media management and operations for board and senior staff of partner FM stations. Radio Tikapur FM reported that it officially introduced a GESI policy as mentioned above. EA will use this example with other FM stations to support adoption of policies that promote GESI. Also, EA supported women and indigenous journalists trained in Year 3 to edit, finalize, and

⁶ The interview can be accessed at <http://equalaccess.org.np/interview/2110-manjutuladharusaid>

air media stories, as discussed above.

OBJECTIVE B: IMPROVE COMMUNITIES' ABILITY TO ACCESS RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Under this objective, SB assisted communities to develop inclusive local plans, and improved access to a diverse range of resources for development assistance. SB provided technical assistance, training, and/or material support during this quarter to achieve these ends. Through its G-NGO partners, SB worked with communities, VDCs, and DDCs to develop plans that identify resources and strategies for leveraging them as well as long-term visions for the productive use of these resources.

2.2.3 Result 1: Inclusive Community Strategic Planning Processes Established

2.2.4 Result 2: Strategic community development plans established

Staff Capacity Building Training in Recovery Districts

During November 6-9, SB conducted a three-day workshop on local-level planning and social mobilization for 44 SMs and three Project Coordinators from G-NGO partners from Dhading, Gorkha, and Lamjung (30 female, 17 male). Held in Chitwan, the training strengthened the participants' capacity to engage in the planning process and expanded their knowledge of SB's overall program structure, objectives, and results. In addition, it helped to clarify concepts and generate a common understanding of: the overall recovery model; post-disaster recovery plans; micro-projects; mobile service camps, and SB's GESI strategy.

District and VDC-level Consultation Meetings

During October and November, G-NGOs and WORTH NGOs jointly organized 44 VDC-level consultation meetings in SB's six terai districts to ensure coordination with district-level stakeholders, government line agencies, political parties, VDC secretaries, and the media. A total of 242 participants (80 female, 162 male) attended the meetings where district-level stakeholders were familiarized with SB's goals, objectives, and activities. Similarly, 1,680 participants (524 female, 1,154 male) attended 44 VDC-level consultation meetings where YI, EA, and CeLRRd presented their activities to stakeholders. Representatives from the DDC, NGOs, political parties, WCFs, citizen awareness centers (CAC), and civil society also participated in the meetings. The meetings provided a platform to collect feedback for proposed SB activities, and to build an environment for coordination and cooperative action.

Internal Revenue Assessment and Projections (IRAP)

SB conducted capacity building training on November 7-9 for 21 local consultants to help prepare IRAPs at the VDC-level. The trainings covered data collection methods and sources, and internal revenue projection methods and processes. Forty-four SB-supported IRAPs are now drafted, which illustrate the total internal revenue of the concerned VDCs, including block grants, conditional grants, and internal revenues generated by VDC taxation and service charges. The plans also identify the strength of fiscal and human resources, and gaps in VDC technical expertise or infrastructure for service delivery. The 44 reports were endorsed by Village Councils in January 2016.

Facilitation of MoFALD's VDC/Municipal Recovery Plans

Close coordination with MoFALD is critical to the success of SB work in recovery districts. SB has adopted a two-track approach to develop VDC-level recovery plans. The first track is to work with DDRCs/DDCs/VDCs to agree on a format for the plans. The second track is to advocate with MoFALD to issue clear guidelines for recovery. As of December 2015, MoFALD had agreed, in principle, to issue such guidelines. SB anticipates hiring a consultant during the second quarter to assist with this process. During meetings in December 2015, Under Secretary Ishwar Raj Poudel reaffirmed MoFALD's support for SB's

governance-led model and the ongoing work in recovery districts.

Result 3: CBOs advocate for needed resources for financial, technical and commodity support

Strengthening WCFs

During October and November, SB facilitated 1,003 orientations (617 in Phase 1 and Phase 2 VDCs, and 386 in recovery districts) for a total of 31,389 WCF members (14,246 female, 17,143 male). During the orientations, participants learned about their roles in local-level planning, including how to advocate for needed resources and prioritize community needs. WCF members, with support from SMs, organized a total of 999 *Basti Bhela* (settlement-level meetings) and *Ward Bhela* (ward-level meetings) where participants completed demand collection forms and formulated 1,393 settlement-level and ward-level plans for the coming year.

To reinforce an understanding of WCF roles and the planning process, G-NGO partners also facilitated a total of 286 bi-monthly meetings attended by 11,026 WCF members (5,040 female, 5,986 male – see **Figure 11, Annex 2** for a caste/ethnic breakdown) in SB's core districts. At the meetings, SMs facilitated discussions about social mobilization, the planning process, and reviewed village development needs such as resources for disabled people, vital registration, block grant budgets, early marriage, and community sanitation. As a result of these meetings WCF members were able to more effectively take part in social actions. For example, in Bijauri VDC Dang, WCF members selected settlement-level projects within budget ceilings provided to them, and took measures to reduce alcoholism and gambling by posting notices and imposing fines on violators.

Strengthening Integrated Planning Formulation Committees (IPFC)

G-NGOs coordinated with VDC offices to conduct three-day orientations in 82 Phase 1 and Phase 2 VDCs for IPFC members, WCF coordinators, and VDC stakeholders. A total of 2,616 persons (860 female, 1,756 male) attended. The orientations clarified project prioritization tools, resource mobilization guidelines, and GESI strategies. Participants learned about their roles and responsibilities in the planning process, the formation of users' committees, DDC project demand forms, MCPM, and M&E mechanisms. In most cases, G-NGOs engaged local trainers who had received training from the MoFALD/LGCDP Regional Coordination Unit and the LGCDP District Governance Expert. As a result of these orientations, IPFCs convened 1,393 settlement-level meetings, many of which were conducted for the first time.

Video on the 14-step Local Level Planning Process

With technical support from MAHA Sanchar, SB produced a video on the 14-step local level planning process with the aim of strengthening the participation of marginalized communities. The video explains the legal provisions of the planning process and its importance as a means of citizen participation. The video was piloted in Dang in the second week of December and screened at SB's review and reflection meeting on December 21-23. Following revisions based on viewer feedback, including from USAID, the video was dispatched to G-NGO partners during the fourth week of December. Partners will screen the



Following revisions based on viewer feedback, including from USAID, the video was dispatched to G-NGO partners during the fourth week of December. Partners will screen the

video in all project VDCs in early January. SB will also explore the possibility of broadcasting the video, or short clips, through websites and TV channels. A meeting will be organized with LGCDP/MoFALD in January 2016 to explore the long-term use for GoN.

To support the planning process and complement the video, SB installed hoarding boards on the 14-step planning process in all 44 Phase 2 VDC offices.

Micro-projects

SB awarded 60 subcontracts for VDC-prioritized micro-projects in Phase 1 VDCs during FY 2015. Fifty-seven of these projects were completed during the year, with the three remaining projects completed this quarter. In recovery districts, while five initial micro-projects were identified in Dhading, Gorkha, and Lamjung, implementation was delayed due to the fuel crisis. Moving them forward is a top priority, and it is anticipated that technical assessments will be completed and subcontracts awarded during the second quarter. The engineering firm recruited to assist with micro-projects for recovery districts will begin work from January.

Vocational Training

In Year 3, SB provided vocational training to 403 youth in Phase 1 VDCs. Project Monitoring Committee (PMC) were established to competitively select participants, with requests for applications announced in local print media, on FM radio stations, and through VDC offices. Trainings were facilitated by F-Skill, a Nepali vocational training organization, which also conducted a labor market analysis and selected course offerings based on market needs. Training events for 11 trades were organized in different locations with some sessions lasting up to 62 days. According to the F-Skill tracking report this quarter, 290 participants are now employed or self-employed, of which 182 are female (see **Figure 12, Annex 2** for further details). Next quarter, SB will track and verify the number of participants who are reported to be employed or self-employed.

2.3 OBJECTIVE C: IMPROVE COMMUNITIES' ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Under Objective C, SB provided technical assistance, resources, and training to institutionalize mechanisms for the transparent administration of funds, advancement of the adoption of inclusive management systems, and establish systems to promote sustainable development results. During this reporting period, SB initiated recruitment of a firm to provide training and implementation support on social accountability tools.

Result 1: Mechanisms for Transparent Administration of Funds Institutionalized

Social Accountability Tools for Community Stakeholders

SB published a solicitation in December for a consulting organization/firm to provide training and assist in implementing social accountability tools in SB districts, including social audits, public hearings, and public audits. The organization/firm will be engaged during the second quarter. Key activities will include: a rapid assessment on the effectiveness of the ongoing social accountability tools/events and training of trainers enabling local trainers and partners to implement social accountability tools.

Public Audits

Three public audits were conducted in December following micro-project completion in Banke, Bardiya, and Kailali. A total of 138 community members (female 59, male 79) were trained to participate in these audits, which were organized by the implementing partner committee (IPC). The participants included community members, VDC officials, representatives from WORTH groups, government line agencies, LGCDP, and political parties and members of WCFs, CACs, IPFCs, and CMCs.

Sajhedari Chautari Meetings

Fifty-three *Sajhedari Chautari* meetings with 1,540 participants (730 female, 810 male) were conducted during the quarter. Participants included SMs and representatives of WCFs, CACs, IPFCs, LYGs, RLGs, WORTH groups, and political parties. During these meetings, information about ongoing work was presented to local community members for discussion, analysis, and feedback. Participants asked questions related to GBV, child marriage, sanitation, local service delivery, and inclusive development. VDC officials noted SB's success in raising awareness and building the capacity of WCFs, CACs, IPFCs, and Monitoring Committees. *Sajhedari Chautari* meetings have furthered coordination and interaction among various CBOs. For example, as a result of the meetings, CMs are attending WCF and WORTH group meetings and briefing them about the benefits of community mediation and processes. In another example, SMs are visiting WORTH groups to explain the 14-step planning process, encouraging members to attend settlement and WCF meetings and make demands.

2.3.1 Result 2: Inclusive Management Systems Adopted

Inclusive PMCs and IPCs for Micro-projects through Community Contracting

SB will recruit and train PMCs and IPCs in all project districts during the next quarter once engineering firms to evaluate the technical details of small-scale infrastructure projects are in place.

2.3.2 Result 3: Systems for Sustainability Established

Sustainability of Community Mediation Centers

Local support of CMCs is important for their long-term sustainability. During this quarter, 12 CMCs in Bardiya, Dang, and Surkhet districts were handed over to VDCs, and the remaining CMCs will be handed over by the end of February 2016. SB will continue to advocate with MoFALD for its allocation of funds to VDCs to support CMCs through their annual budgets. Likewise, CMs are being encouraged to attend bi-monthly WCF meetings in order to inform participants about the importance of CMCs and to advocate for funding from VDC block grants.

Linkage, Networking, and Sustainability Training for WORTH Group Members

WORTH-NGOs (FFN in Banke and WAM in Surkhet) offered trainings to WORTH groups on connecting the groups with government line agencies to strengthen their sustainability once SB's support concludes. Representatives from the different government line agencies gave presentations on their services, processes, and benefits available. A total of 62 WORTH group members attended these trainings during October. (The remaining groups had already attended training during Year 3.) Twenty-two groups were registered with District Agriculture Offices, six with District Livestock Offices, five with local cooperatives, and four with VDCs as a result of linkages established following the training.

WORTH Involvement in the Development Process

Thirty-nine WORTH group members participated in WCFs this quarter, including four members who hold leadership positions in WCFs. The WCF members have been participating regularly in monthly meetings by making requests to the VDC Councils and advocating against unequal budget distribution and power divisions.

OBJECTIVE D: INCREASE THE ABILITY OF EXISTING AND NEW GOVERNMENT UNITS TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY

The purpose of Objective D is to provide technical assistance, material support, and training to

improve the ability of local government officials to carry out their mandates and respond to local demands. This involves strengthening collaboration among CSOs, CBOs, and local government units so as to identify local development priorities, and support community engagement in local government budgeting and planning processes.

2.5.1 Result 1: Local Government Officials Effectively Carry Out Their Mandates

Training on VDC Accounting Software

SB collaborated with MoFALD to hold two VDC accounting software training workshops in Dang this quarter, which aimed to strengthen financial management within VDCs. A total of 58 participants, mostly VDC secretaries and assistant accountants, participated (6 female, 52 male). MoFALD is tracking the impact of the training, and reporting will be made available during the next quarter. According to reports from SB partners, at least 59 VDCs are using software and techniques gained from similar trainings conducted by SB/MoFALD last year.

DDC Capacity Building

On November 25, SB provided support to the DDC in Kanchanpur to orient LGCDP SMs on the local planning process. A total of 48 SMs (32 female, 16 male) from VDCs and municipalities attended the program. The orientation was organized at the request of Kanchanpur DDC to strengthen upcoming VDC- and municipal-level annual planning processes by better eliciting development priorities from wards and settlements. Because of this training, the SMs held the settlement-level discussions for the first time in Kanchanpur. SB is working with the six DDCs in its terai districts to develop and strengthen plans for capacity building that will be ready for implementation beginning next quarter.

2.5.2 Result 2: Local Government Units and CBOs/CSOs Collaborate to Identify Local Development Priorities

Mobile Service Camps

At the request of local communities, and in cooperation with the District Agriculture Development Office, SB coordinated two Mobile Service Camps in Khari and Maidi VDCs of Dhading district on December 20-21. A total of 108 residents, mostly farmers (53 female, 55 male), participated in the one-day camps.

2.5.3 Result 3: Communities Engage in Local Government Budget and Planning Process

Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS)

SB worked with the CECI to implement a ten-month PETS study to track the flow of funds from point of origin to point of expenditure (e.g., from the Ministry of Finance, to MoFALD, to DDCs or VDCs, to contractors and PCs, etc.). The study will help to identify bottlenecks and discrepancies in the flow of funds, and analyze why these occur. CECI helped to build the capacity of SB's G-NGO partners in six districts to collect data at the district and VDC-level for this study by holding training on PETS data entry and analysis in December. A total of 26 participants (5 women, 21 men) attended this training. The consultant team will complete its analysis, with findings compiled into a report by the end of February, to be disseminated both locally and nationally in March. Preliminary findings include: DDCs release funds to VDCs with or without the receipt of requests from VDCs; DDCs sometimes delay the release of funds to VDCs; statements of expenditure from VDCs are not always required to obtain the second tranche of funds from DDCs; VDCs often release funds to Users' Committees during the last month of the fiscal year; and the documentation of the release of funds and payment vouchers are not systematic.

Gender Responsive Budgets

The performance of Gender Responsive and Socially Inclusive Budget Audits (GBA) is

mandated by the 2068 Local Bodies Gender Responsive and Socially Inclusive Budget Planning and Audit Guidelines. The process provides an opportunity for local bodies to self-evaluate their achievements in advancing gender equality and social inclusion. Responding to LGCDP's request, SB provided MoFALD-trained consultants for GBAs at the district and municipality levels. This support complemented the budget allocated by MoFALD to cover local logistics costs. In this quarter, SB supported three GBAs: Sanoshree-Taratal Municipality in Bardiya, Tulsipur Municipality in Dang, and Bardiya DDC. Each GBA included a ranking of the local bodies' efforts based on 96 indicators outlined in the guidelines, an analysis of strengths and weaknesses, and a GESI development workplan. The local bodies committed to ensuring that some of the activities from the workplan will be reflected in the plan for the new fiscal year, such as Bardiya DDC and Nepalgunj Municipality will develop and implement a Code of Conduct to address. SB will track this during the coming quarter as next year's plans are finalized through municipality and district council meetings. Government officials who participated stated that the GBA helped them to understand practical ways in which they could plan and budget activities to promote gender and social inclusion. SB will coordinate with LGCDP to support up to six DDCs and 17 municipalities with their GBAs during Year 4.

Participation and Advocacy in the Planning Process

A total of 392 WORTH members, who also are WCF members, participated in WCF planning meetings. WORTH groups advocated for income generation activities, community housing, and other community development activities. As a result of their participation, six WORTH groups acquired funds for local projects this quarter. Examples include:

- Four WORTH groups (Pragatiheel, Sagarmatha, Roshni, and Hanumangadhi) in Banke received NRs. 200,000 for goat farming from the Nepalgunj Metropolitan Office.
- Laligurans WORTH group in Banke received NRs. 60,000 for goat farming and fishery from Banke DDC.
- Pariwartan WORTH group in Bardiya received NRs. 25,000 for pig farming.
- Chetana WORTH group in Banke received a commitment from the VDC that they would receive 10 percent budget out of 35 percent targeted for marginalized groups for goat farming. There are other successes.

A total of 183 LYG members (60 female, 123 male) are also WCF members and 71 LYG members (18 female, 53 male) are IPFC members. Following training on the role of youth in local planning, LYG members conducted awareness initiatives and participated in local planning and development activities in 44 VDCs. They advocated for and/or conducted the following activities in coordination with local political and community leaders, WCF members, and female community members:

- LYG members of Kusum and Samserganj VDCs advocated for improvement of the social security allowance distribution system, posted beneficiary lists on the VDC premises, and volunteered their help during the distribution of benefits.
- Hekuli LYG in Dang installed a suggestion box on the VDC premises.
- Binauna LYG in Banke reconstructed a bridge to facilitate commercial activities and transportation.
- Baisi Bichawa LYG in Kanchanpur organized a discussion program during which they shared posters and pamphlets on sanitation issues.

By the end of the quarter, LYGs had received NRs. 278,000 from VDCs in support of various projects. This figure will increase as YI is still tracking the projects.

During the reporting period, 301 members of 56 RLGs (200 female, 101 male) participated in ward-level meetings of their VDCs held as part of the government's 14-step planning process. RLGs submitted development plans for incorporation into VDCs' yearly planning and budgeting. RLGs also advocated for 21 local development projects this quarter, primarily

skill building training for youth and women, and community centers.

GESI in Governance Activities

A total of 147 SMs (82 female, 65 male) work in 12 SB districts (102 in original districts and 44 in recovery districts), building capacity among WCF members to promote inclusive participation in local level planning and implementation. During this quarter, SB supported the reformation of 197 WCFs in accordance with GESI provisions included in the Social Mobilization Guidelines, 2071. For example, the guidelines prescribe that at least 33% of WCF and WCF Management Committee members should be female, and that the WCF coordinator position must alternate annually between a male and a female. Disaggregated data and analysis of the composition of the reformed WCFs from a GESI perspective will be included in next quarter's report. Additionally, SMs worked with WCFs, CACs, and IPFCs to facilitate inclusive participation during settlement- and ward- level meetings. Early reports suggest that IPFCs decided to hold 1,393 settlement-level meetings, many in areas where no such meetings had been conducted previously. Holding meetings at the settlement-level helps to ensure that all household members in that catchment area are able to participate, and decreases the likelihood that marginalized communities will be excluded.

SB also designed a draft "Project Request Form" presented by G-NGOs to IPFCs and VDC secretaries during local-level planning orientation. IPFCs and VDC secretaries offered feedback and agreed to use the form at settlement-level meetings. SMs already introduced the forms to various community groups. The forms play a role in supporting the active participation of a variety of groups, including women and marginalized group members, in the planning process. Reports received to date indicate that 603 settlement-level planning meetings used the project request forms designed by SB. Specific sessions on GESI considerations related to local-level planning, including information about budgets for target groups and prioritization tools, were included in WCF orientations and IPFC trainings. SB offered its support to members from WORTH groups, LYGs, and RLGs – many are female and/or from marginalized communities – to participate in the planning process in support of Objective A. A total of 392 WORTH members and 183 LYG members are also members of WCFs.

3.0 CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS-INTERNAL

3.1 POSTPONEMENT OF ANNUAL PARTNERS' MEETING

SB was obliged to postpone its Annual Partners' Meeting scheduled for November 4-6 due to the ongoing fuel crisis. The meeting was intended to serve as a platform for all partners to come together to review Year 3 results and Year 4 draft workplans. Under the circumstances, SB staff met in small groups with G-NGO and WORTH partners to prepare their Year 4 workplans. On November 19th, SB conducted a truncated, one-day meeting with national partners in Kathmandu to review progress and proposed Year 4 activities. The Annual Partners' Meeting was rescheduled for March 2-4, 2016 and will focus on results to date as well as potential adjustments in program activities based on project learning.

3.2 RECRUITMENT

As SB expanded into Phase 2 VDCs in the original districts and also six new recovery districts, recruitment was challenging both in terms of quality and quantity of available candidates. Various post-recovery efforts meant an increase in job opportunities in the districts affected by the earthquake. Several SB partner staff secured higher-paying opportunities within the relief effort. Despite these challenges, SB was successful in recruiting new staff for both recovery districts and support positions based in Nepalgunj, and in the process improved its overall staff diversity, including an increase in female staff.

4.0 CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS-EXTERNAL

4.1 FUEL CRISIS AND BANDHS

The fuel crisis severely impacted implementation of activities in both original and recovery districts during this quarter. In original districts, project monitoring and regional events had to be postponed while local activities (community mediation, WORTH meetings, etc.) were able to continue. In addition to the fuel shortage, *bandhs* and the need for escorted vehicle movements further limited mobility in Kailali district. In recovery districts, travel was constrained until early December. The selection of NGO partners in Dolakha, Makwanpur, and Ramechhap was delayed as SB staff could not travel to the districts to meet with potential partners to conduct management control assessments. As the quarter progressed, SB hired rental vehicles through contracts that included fuel. Travel in all project districts began to normalize in December, and by the end of the quarter was no longer a serious obstacle to project implementation.

4.2 DELAY IN THE FORMATION OF NRA

The delay in the formation of the NRA posed a challenge as local government bodies awaited guidelines for recovery activities, and were reluctant to act in the absence of clear instructions from the central government. Passage of the Bill on Reconstruction of Earthquake Affected Structures in December and the subsequent establishment of the NRA will help to expedite SB's recovery efforts as government officials at the local level are more likely to obtain clear guidelines. While the location of NRA's regional offices has not yet been decided, it is likely that offices will be established in at least two of SB's six recovery districts, improving the prospects for local coordination.

5.0 FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1 MAJOR CATEGORY EXPENDITURES

TABLE 2: Q3 FY 2015 FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY PER INVOICE CATEGORIES (USD)

Item	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Q1 FY 2016 Total	Targets Q1 FY 2016	%
Personnel	54,040.10	57,150.19	84,676.52	195,866.81	325,680.82	60
Fringe Benefits	14,170.58	19,048.07	22,999.96	56,218.61	106,936.21	53
Consultants	17,396.83	3,547.53	23,295.68	44,240.04	28,277.79	156
Travel	12,587.44	15,145.89	21,170.08	48,903.41	68,175.41	72
Allowances	10,131.10	13,193.57	12,513.79	35,838.46	76,176.73	47
Equipment & Supplies	3,094.68	11,838.78	8,694.15	23,627.61	52,004.47	45
Contractual	32,336.30	282,760.52	245,396.70	560,493.52	1,383,017.49	41
Other Direct Costs	26,479.22	36,130.50	37,236.48	99,846.20	98,105.49	102
Indirect Costs	42,825.12	59,540.58	74,218.85	176,584.55	292,860.45	60
Fixed Fee	8,290.81	12,505.80	14,883.56	35,680.17	75,310.93	47
TOTAL	\$221,352.18	\$510,861.43	\$545,085.77	\$1,277,299.38	\$2,506,545.79	51

During the first quarter of FY2016 the expenditure rate was 51% of target. SB received approval for an additional \$10M for recovery districts in August 2015, leading to a modification of targets. The under-expenditure was due to fuel shortages during the India-Nepal border blockade, which was in effect throughout the quarter. In original districts, project monitoring and regional events were constrained while local activities (CMs, WORTH groups, etc.) were able to continue. In recovery districts, staff were unable to travel until early December, severely limiting on-the-ground activities. SB focused on staffing and procurement instead. Travel in project districts began to normalize in December. Expenditure rates are expected to increase significantly during the second quarter as long the political situation remains stable.

5.2 STATUS OF EXPENDITURE FUNDS TOWARDS M&E PURPOSE

TABLE 3: M&E EXPENDITURES

Direct Costs	Amount	Targets	%
Personnel	10,624.34	125,000.00	
Fringe Benefits	3,069.45		
Allowance	1,245.35		

Travel	1,302.56		
Equipment & Supplies	418.63		
Other Direct cost	5,432.82		
TOTAL	22,093.15	125,000.00	18%

The low expenditure owes primarily to the delayed payment for Perception Survey 3 and the baseline survey in recovery districts.

5.3 LOE UTILIZATION SUMMARY STATUS

TABLE 4: LOE UTILIZATION FOR Q3 FY 2015

Position	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Q1 FY2016 Total LOE	Budgeted LOE	Remaining LOE
LTТА – Key Personnel	83.11	86.00	93.00	262.11	5,600.00	2,594.12
LTТА – Professional & Support	240.53	315.00	383.75	939.28	20,609.00	12,655.05
STТА	66.10	24.28	29.39	119.77	5,539.00	4,204.13
TOTAL	389.74	425.28	506.14	1,321.16	31,748.00	19,453.30

A total of 1,321.16 days were utilized against the projected 2,568 days during this reporting period, as per the LOE Table 8. At the end of Q1 of FY16, 39% of the total approved LOE has been utilized.

5.4 STAFFING MATRIX

TABLE 5: STAFF RECRUITMENT MATRIX

Position	Target Start Date	Recruit Status	Name
Chief of Party	11/22/13	Hired	Nick Langton
Deputy Chief of Party	11/17/14	Hired	Basanta Pokhrel
Operations Manager	02/17/15	Hired	Howard Weston
Senior Field Director	03/09/15	Hired	Mahesh Nepal
Senior Field Director, Reconstruction	12/01/15	Hired	Curtis Palmer
Director of Grants & Contracts	12/10/15	Hired	Krishna Poudyal
Director of Finance	02/16/15	Hired	Ram Chandra Paudel
Director of Monitoring and Evaluation	05/15/14	Hired	Amleshwar Singh
Senior Regional Program Manager- West	08/21/14	Hired	Shyam Mandal
Senior Regional Program Manager – Center	16/11/15	Hired	Suresh Thapa
Monitoring and Evaluation Manager	04/10/13	Hired	Sudan Shivakoti
Finance Manager	03/18/13	Hired	Surya Upadhyaya
Women's Economic Group (WORTH) Manager	02/25/14	Hired	Reena Chaudhary
Office Manager	10/17/13	Hired	Ananta Sharma
Human Resources Manager	11/11/13	Hired	Anju Lamichhane
Conflict Mitigation Manager	03/10/14	Hired	Geeta Pradhan
Administrative Manager	08/25/14	Hired	Adarsha Shrestha
GESI Manager	12/08/14	Hired	Srijana Chhetri
Local Governance Manager	07/20/15	Hired	Govinda Adhikari

Local Governance Manager	10/05/15	Hired	Vishnu Tandon
Grants & Contract Manager	11/02/15	Hired	Shiromani Pokhrel
Office Manager	10/26/15	Hired	Rajju Man Pradhan
Senior GIS Officer	01/13/14	Hired	Nim Bahadur Thapa Regmi
Finance Officer	10/23/13	Hired	Topendra Basnyat
IT Officer	10/25/13	Hired	Bal Kumar Khatri
Administrative & Logistic Officer	01/23/14	Hired	Ameeruddin Ansari
Procurement Officer	04/09/15	Hired	Bishal Raj Shrestha
Finance Officer	05/06/13	Hired	Rita Diwan
Grants & Contract Support Officer	12/01/15	Hired	Mohan Shrestha
Grants & Contract Support Officer	11/23/15	Hired	Bhawana Rawat
Finance Officer	11/02/15	Hired	Laxmi Lama
Finance Officer	11/23/15	Hired	Prakash Neupane
Procurement Assistant	07/07/14	Hired	Lok Bahadur Khadka
M&E Associate	11/04/15	Hired	Nima Kumari Gupta
District Field Coordinator	06/01/15	Hired	Lok Bahadur Thapa Magar
Media Field Coordinator	06/08/15	Hired	Sharmila Lama
District Field Coordinator	06/22/15	Hired	Chandra Gurung
District Field Coordinator	07/21/15	Hired	Santosh Kumar Karna
District Field Coordinator	08/24/15	Hired	Surya Baramu
District Field Coordinator	09/16/15	Hired	Basu Dev Chaudhary
District Field Coordinator	09/28/15	Hired	Pragya Thapa
District Field Coordinator	09/28/15	Hired	Rajesh Kumar Jha
District Field Coordinator	10/08/15	Hired	Bimal B.K.
District Field Coordinator	10/27/15	Hired	Pramila Kumari Singh
District Field Coordinator	11/30/15	Hired	Nirajan Chaudhary
Receptionist	07/08/13	Hired	Swachchha Shrestha
Finance Associate	07/21/15	Hired	Mina Mahato
Residence Security and Maintenance Coordinator	01/09/14	Hired	Ram Kumar Lama
Office and Ground Maintenance	11/18/13	Hired	Chitra Bhandari
Driver	05/10/13	Hired	Dulari Tharu
Driver	08/01/13	Hired	Karna Bahadur Lopchan
Driver	08/26/13	Hired	Tika Ram Sunar
Driver	08/01/13	Hired	Rajendra B.K.
Driver	07/07/14	Hired	Shib Kumar Thapa
Driver	07/21/14	Hired	Lal Bahadur Chand
Cleaner/Cook	08/01/13	Hired	Nanda Gharti Magar
Cleaner	08/01/13	Hired	Sunita Tharu
Cleaner	06/02/14	Hired	Chandra Kumari Thapa
Cleaner/ Cook	07/01/15	Hired	Rashmita Tamang
Cleaner/Cook	10/03/15	Hired	Chandrakala Shrestha

Grants and Contracts Director, Manager, and Officer positions were filled this quarter, as were new positions for recovery districts including Senior Field Director, Senior Program Manager, Office Manager, Finance Officer (2), and District Field Coordinator (3).

ANNEX 1: MEP MATRIX

Indicator	Type	Source/ Method	Disaggregation	Geo- enabled Reporting	Responsible	Frequency	Baseline	Year 4 Target	Target (Oct- Dec '15)	Achievements (Oct-Dec '15)	Remarks
Goal: Targeted communities are empowered to better direct their own local development											
Proportion of budgeted VDC projects that were fully implemented/finalized within the previous planning cycle	Impact	VDC Annual Work Plans, VDC Progress Reports and G-NGO reports /baseline, midterm, and endline surveys	District, VDC	Yes	Pact	Annually in October	17.1%	95%	--	94%	Source: Perception Survey III
Objective A: Enabling environment for community development established											
Proportion of households that have experienced conflict in the past year that have used peaceful means to solve the conflict	Outcome	Households of SB project area/baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, project phase, type of conflict/ dispute, caste/ethnicity	Yes	Pact	Baseline, bi-annual perception survey, and end of project	54%	64%	--	37%	The target will be met by the end of Year 4.
Proportion of VDCs that have youth groups/CMUs that participate in the VDC planning process	Outcome	LYGs/CMUs, VDC planning process minute books, YI periodic reports	District, VDC	Yes	YI	Annually in October	--	90%	--	77%	Since the planning process is ongoing, the number will be revised.

IR A1: Early responses that address the causes and consequences of instability are institutionalized											
Proportion of households that have experienced conflict in the past year that have used peaceful means to solve the conflict	Outcome	Households of SB project area/baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, project phase, type of conflict/ dispute, caste/ethnicity	Yes	Pact	Baseline, bi-annual perception survey, and end of project	54%	64%	--	37%	The target will be met by the end of Year 4.
Number of host national inhabitants reached through USG assistance public information campaigns to support peaceful resolution of conflicts	Output	Activities completion reports	District, project phase, gender, caste/ethnicity	No	CeLRRd	Quarterly	0%	87,000	21,750	11,333	1,095 people participated in GBV campaigns organized by WORTH partner NGOs and 5,119 households were reached through social marketing campaigns (the calculation for social marketing is based on two members per household).
Proportion of all mediation cases opened during the quarter preceding the period that were settled within 3 months	Outcome	CMCs, Community Mediation Database, and CeLRRd reports	VDC, project phase, district, first party and second party gender, caste/ethnicity, age group, type of conflict/ dispute	No	CeLRRd	Collected monthly, reported quarterly	0	75%	80%	78%	1,045 settled out of 1,344 (78%) cases registered. (In process: 217, referred: 10, not settled: 49, party not in contact: 13, and settled outside CMC: 10).
Proportion of project VDCs that provide a budget in the current financial year that covers at least partial operating costs of the CMC (rental, stipend of mediator, other office costs, transport)	Outcome	CMCs, VDC Annual Work Plans, VDC progress reports, and CeLRRd progress reports, baseline and endline surveys,	District, VDC	Yes	CeLRRd	Quarterly	0	30%	41%	50%	3 VDCs of Surkhet received the total operational cost of NRs. 196,000 this quarter against the quarterly target of 6 VDCs. Of 58 CMCs from Phase 1, 32 CMCs received funds from VDCs, which is already reported. From the balance 26 VDCs, the target for this quarter is 6.

		instructional survey using DAT by CeLRRd									
F: Number of new groups or initiatives created through USG funding, dedicated to resolving conflict or the drivers of the conflict	Output	CMC Database and CeLRRd reports	District, VDC	No	CeLRRd	Quarterly	0	85	24	20	20 CMCs formed in Phase 2 VDCs. Fewer CMCs were established due to the delay in basic mediation training as a result of the fuel crisis. All will be established by next quarter.
F: Number of groups trained in conflict mitigation/resolution skills or consensus building techniques with USG assistance	Output	CeLRRd Training Database and reports	District, VDC	No	CeLRRd	Quarterly	0	80	24	20	20 basic mediation training sessions were held in Phase 2 VDCs. The target will be met next quarter.
Number of new cases of individual/group conflict mediation opened during the reporting period	Output	CMCs, Community Mediation Database, and CeLRRd reports	District, VDC, first and second party gender, caste/ethnicity, age group, type of conflict/ dispute	No	CeLRRd	Quarterly	--	7,000	1,000	1,344	1,045 settled out of 1,344 (78%) cases registered. (In process: 217, referred: 10, not settled: 49, party not in contact: 13, and settled outside CMC: 10).
Percentage of successfully mediated local level disputes among women, youth, or people from marginalized groups as a result of USG assistance (custom)	Outcome	CMCs, Community Mediation Database, and CeLRRd reports	District, VDC, first and second party gender, caste/ethnicity, age group, type of conflict/ dispute	No	CeLRRd	Quarterly	--	72	72	85%	Out of 1,045 mediated cases, 883 were resolved (454 from first party female and 429 from first party marginalized groups). 85% shows the involvement of women, youth, and marginalized parties.

Percentage of successfully mediated local level disputes among women, youth, or people from marginalized groups as a result of USG assistance (custom)	Outcome	CMCs, Community Mediation Database, and CeLRRd reports	District, VDC, first and second party gender, caste/ethnicity, age group, type of conflict/ dispute	No	CeLRRd	Quarterly	--	72	72	85%	Out of 1,045 mediated cases, 883 were resolved (454 from first party female and 429 from first party marginalized groups). 85% shows the involvement of women, youth, and marginalized parties.
Number of local level conflicts mitigated with USG assistance	Output	CMCs, Community Mediation Database, and CeLRRd reports	District, VDC, first and second party gender, caste/ethnicity, age group, type of conflict/ dispute	No	CeLRRd	Quarterly	--	5,600	1,400	1,045	1,045 local level cases were settled out of 1,344 registered cases by CMCs. The target will be met in the upcoming quarters.
IR A2: Enduring solutions to the problems that drive conflict are adopted											
Proportion of supported economic groups that provide more than 5 loans per year to their members	Outcome	WEGs and WORTH NGO Periodic Reports	VDC, project phase, District	Yes	WORTH NGOs	Annually	--	80%	-	53%	120 WORTH groups provided more than 5 loans out of 226 WORTH groups. Assessments are ongoing, as is group formation. This is annual target will be met by the end of the year.
Number of youth who have started a business or found a job through the project activities	Outcome	People who received skill-based short-term or medium-term training from WORTH NGOs, YI and F-Skill Nepal, WEGs, LYGs, RLGs, and CACs. Survey by respective NGOs (WORTH	VDC, project phase, District, gender, caste/ ethnicity, age group	No	YI, WORTH NGOs, and F-Skill	Annually	--	200	200	290	290 youth employed out of 403 youth who attended vocational training in Year 3. This is reported by F-Skill and SB wants to track the result next quarter. The numbers may be revised.

		NGOs and YI) and F-Skill Nepal									
Number of individuals who received USG-assisted training on gender equality and social inclusion and the understanding of the root causes of the conflict	Output	Training Registers, Training Database, periodic reports by SB and partners	Gender, caste/ ethnicity, age group of trainees, VDC, District, training type	Yes	LNGOs	Quarterly	--	4,000	648	540	20 basic mediation trainings were completed with 540 mediators trained. The shortfall is due to the four training workshops that could not be completed this quarter due to the fuel crisis. They will be held quarter.
Number of new/existing women's economic groups formed during the reporting period	Output	WEGs and Group Database maintained by WORTH NGOs, NGO reports	District, VDC	Yes	WORTH NGOs	Quarterly	--	221	0	0	No target was set for this quarter. Group assessment is ongoing.
Number of Youth Groups and CMUs that have been established/revived/ operational in the reporting period	Output	LYGs/CMUs and Group Database maintained by YI	District, VDC	No	YI	Quarterly	--	57	44	44	Total of 57 LYGs and 57 CMUs formed in Phase 2 VDCs. During this quarter, 44 groups formed, which means 100% target achieved.
Proportion of VDCs that have youth groups/CMUs that participate in the VDC planning process	Outcome	LYGs/CMUs, VDC planning process minute books, YI periodic reports	District, VDC	Yes	YI	Annually	--	90%	95%	93%	The result reflects the participation of groups in Phase 2 VDCs. SB is tracking the participation in Phase 1 VDCs. The result will be revised in next quarter.
F: Number of non-state news outlets assisted by USG	Output	Progress reports	District	Yes	EA	Quarterly	--	18	18	18	18 FM partners assisted; Radio Nepal treated as a State news outlet and not counted.

F: Number of local women participating in a substantive role or position in a peacebuilding process supported with USG assistance	Output	Group Databases maintained by implementing partners	District, caste/ethnicity, age group	No	LNGOs, EA, YI, and CeLRRd	Quarterly	N/A	32,254	8,064	7,171	1,290 female community mediators and 5,881 WORTH group members. The target will be met next quarter after new WORTH groups are formed.
Number of people from marginalized groups participating in a substantive role or position in the peacebuilding process supported with USG assistance	Output	Group Databases maintained by implementing partners	District, caste/ethnicity, age group	No	LNGOs, EA, YI, and CeLRRd	Quarterly	N/A	38,000	9,500	6,156	1,794 mediators are from marginalized groups and 4,362 WORTH group members from marginalized groups. The shortfall is due to the delayed training in recovery districts and will be met next quarter.
Percentage of leadership positions in USG supported community management entities that are filled by a woman or member of a vulnerable group.	Outcome	Group Databases maintained by implementing partners	District, caste/ethnicity, age group	No	LNGOs, EA, YI, and CeLRRd	Quarterly	N/A	80%	80%	85%	1,955 out of 2,304 key positions held by 1,392 female and 563 male from marginalized groups in RLGs, WEGs, LYGs, CMUs, CMCs, WCFs, and CACs
F: Number of USG funded events, trainings, or activities designed to build support for peace or reconciliation on a mass scale	Output	Activities completion report and training database	Project	No	WORTH NGOs, CeLRRd	Annually	N/A	2	2	2	GBV campaign by WORTH NGOs and Social Marketing campaign organized by CeLRRd.

Number of people participating in USG supported events, trainings or activities designed to build mass support for peace and reconciliation	Output	Activities completion report and training database	District, caste/ethnicity, age group	No	CeLRRd	Quarterly	N/A	1,620	-	1,095	1,095 people involved in GBV events organized by WORTH NGOs.
Number of media stories disseminated with USG support to facilitate the advancement of reconciliation or peace process.	Output	Media stories tracker	Type of story	No	EA	Quarterly	N/A	500	104	104	18 FM partners developed 104 stories that were broadcast 2,195 times.
Objective B: Communities access resources for development											
Number of WCFs that review the village development plan to ensure equitable distribution of local resources	Outcome	WCF meeting minutes, G-NGO partner reports, review of meeting minutes	District, VDC	No	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	0	800	0	0	Planning process ongoing as of December 2015.
Proportion of WCF members who indicate that they can provide meaningful input into village development plans	Output	WCF members, baseline, perception, and end-line surveys	District, project phase, gender, ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	29%	50%	0%	0	Planning process ongoing as of December 2015.

IR B1: Inclusive community strategic planning processes are established											
Number of local key stakeholders (community leaders, local government officials), trained in inclusive participatory planning	Output	Training Database, Training Registers, G-NGO progress reports	District, VDC, gender, caste/ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Quarterly	--	34,000	34,000	34,005	Trainings were conducted for WCFs and IPFCs in both core and recovery districts.
Proportion of WCFs with GESI strategies in place	Outcome	WCFs/ baseline, perception, and endline surveys	Districts, VDC	Yes	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	53%	80%	-	64%	Data Source: Perception Survey III
IR B2: Community development plans are established											
Proportion of village development plans with a functional sustainability plan that adheres to locally agreed standards	Outcome	Review by G-NGOs and external consultants of VDC Development Plans, PVDPs, and VDC Annual Plans/baseline, perception, and end surveys	District, VDC	Yes	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	81%	100%	-	98%	Data Source: Perception Survey III
Number of WCFs that review the village development plan to ensure equitable distribution of local resources	Output	WCF meeting minutes, G-NGO partner reports, review of meeting minutes	District, VDC	No	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	--	800	-	0	Planning process ongoing as of December 2015.
Proportion of WCF members who indicate that they can provide meaningful input into VDC plans	Outcome	WCF members, baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, project phase, gender, ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	29%	50%	-	48%	Data Source: Perception Survey III

IR B3: Community based organizations advocate for needed resources for financial, technical and commodity support											
Proportion of village development plans that include a fundraising plan	Outcome	Review of village development plans	District, project phase	Yes	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	53%	80%	-	98%	Data Source: Perception Survey III
Objective C: Communities implement inclusive development policies effectively											
C.2.01 Proportion of citizens who indicate that they actively participate in the decisions around VDC community development projects	Outcome	Citizens from SB areas/ baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, gender, ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	3.6%	25%	-	28%	Data Source: Perception Survey III
C.2.02 Proportion of community projects that are allocated to women, youth or marginalized groups	Outcome	VDC's community projects/review of community project funding allocation	District, VDC, projects allocated to women, youth and marginalized groups	Yes	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	20%	40%	-	41%	Data Source: Perception Survey III
IR C1: Mechanisms for transparent administration of funds are institutionalized											
Proportion of citizens who feel that the administration of funds in the VDC is transparent	Outcome	Citizens from SB areas/ baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, project phase, gender, ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Annually	16%	25%	-	17%	Data Source: Perception Survey III. The target will be achieved by the end of Year 4 as SB will be introducing social accountability training and support for events.

IR C2: Inclusive management systems are adopted											
Proportion of citizens who indicate that they actively participate in the decisions around VDC community development projects	Outcome	Citizens from SB areas/ baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, gender, ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	3.6%	25%	-	28%	Data Source: Perception Survey III
Proportion of community projects that are allocated to women, youth or marginalized groups	Outcome	VDC's community projects/review of community project funding allocation	District, VDC, projects allocated to women, youth and marginalized groups	Yes	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	20%	40%	-	31%	Data Source: Perception Survey III. The projects are still being tracked as of December 31.
IR C3: Systems for sustainability are established											
C.3.01 Proportion of partners that improve their organizational capacity	Outcome	OPI report from LNGOs/OPI Assessments	District	No	Pact	Semi-annually	60%	90%	90%	80%	Only one organization has been reviewed. Other organizations will be reviewed by the end of February.
Objective D: Local government units function effectively											
D.1.01 Percentage change in positive citizen views on VDC service delivery	Outcome	Citizens from SB areas/ baseline, perception, and end-line surveys	District, project phase, gender, ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	56.6%	80%	-	71%	Data Source: Perception Survey III. SB anticipates improvement after the participatory planning process ends in January.

D.2.03 Percentage change in positive citizen views on the effective implementation of community development projects	Outcome	Citizens from SB areas involved in community project planning, implementation and monitoring, baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, project phase, gender, ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Semi-annually	19%	35%	-	28%	Data Source: Perception Survey III. Results will increase following implementation of micro-projects in Quarters 2 and 3.
IR D1: Local government officials effectively carry out their mandate											
Percentage improvement in positive citizen views on VDC service delivery	Outcome	Citizens from SB project areas/baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, project phase, gender, ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Yearly: baseline, mid-term, endline	56.6%	80%	-	71%	Data Source: Perception Survey III. SB anticipates improvement after the participatory planning process ends in January.
F: Number of sub-national entities receiving USG assistance that improve their performance on the MCPM index (Revised)	Outcome	VDC, DDC, or Local Bodies' Fiscal Commission (LBFC)/ baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, VDC, project phase	Yes	G-NGOs	Annually	--	30	-	0	SB will report on this in the next quarter.
Number of VDC officials trained and/or mentored in public administration, inclusive management, planning, and implementation of VDC plans	Output	Training Registers and Training Database	District, gender, ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Quarterly	--	1,800	-	58	SB conducted 2 VDC Accounting Software Trainings in Dang this quarter. Additional trainings will be organized in the upcoming quarters in coordination with MoFALD.

IR D2: Local government units and CBOs/CSOs collaborate to identify local development priorities											
Number of times technical assistance is provided to government ministries	Output	MOFALD or SB Reports	Type of technical assistance	No	Pact	Annually	--	2		N/A	SB will report on this next quarter. Areas of support being discussed with MoFALD.
Proportion of WCFs that have tracked their budget allocation	Outcome	WCF budget tracking meeting minutes/ baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, VDC	No	G-NGOs	Baseline, bi-annual perception surveys, endline	5.8%	70%	-	72%	Data Source: Perception Survey III
D.2.03 Percentage change in positive citizen views on the effective implementation of community development projects	Outcome	Citizens from SB areas involved in community project planning, implementation and monitoring, baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, project phase, gender, ethnicity, age group	No	G-NGOs	Baseline, bi-annual perception surveys, endline	19%	35%	-	28%	Data Source: Perception Survey III. Results will increase following implementation of micro-projects in Quarters 2 and 3.
D.2.04 Number of sub-national governments receiving USG assistance to increase their annual own-source revenue.	Output	Activity progress reports	District	Yes	G-NGOs	Annually	N/A	44			Indicator revised and data will be reported in Q2.
D.2.05 Number of local mechanisms supported with USG assistance for citizens to engage their sub-national government.	Output	Group Database (WCFs, CACs, IPFCs, VSMCs)	District	No	G-NGOs	Annually	N/A	2,100			Indicator revised and data will be reported in Q2.

D.2.06 Number of LNGO and public sector associations supported with USG assistance.	Output	Activity progress reports	District	Yes	G-NGOs	Annually	N/A	43			Indicator revised and data will be reported in Q2.
IR D3: Communities engage in local government budget and planning processes											
Proportion of projects at VDC level that were budgeted in the previous planning cycle, that were in the top 5 priorities list of community forums (WCFs) (Moved from Impact Indicator 1)	Impact	WCFs, Ward level planning meeting minutes, IPFCs, IPFC meeting minutes to recommend projects to VDCs, VDC Council approved project lists with budget allocations, VDC council meeting minutes, baseline, perception and endline surveys	District, VDC, project phases	No	G-NGOs	Baseline, semi-annual, endline	44.4%	50%	-	35%	Data Source: Perception Survey III. PS III did not factor in the ongoing planning process.
Cross-Cutting Indicators											
F: Number of awards made directly to local organization	Output	Grant and contract records of SB and micro-project database	District, VDC	Yes	Pact	Quarterly	--	195	3	0	Awards to partners in Dolakha, Makwanpur, and Ramechhap will begin in February. Micro-project awards will also begin in January.
F: Proportion of female participants in USG-assisted	Output	Group Database, Training	District, VDC, ethnicity, age group	Yes	Pact, national and LNGO	Quarterly	--	65%	-	48%	182 females of 290 vocational training graduates employed; 2,023

programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources (assets, credit, income or employment)		Database, Internship Database, group records, training register, internship records of youth training by YI, vocational training, and WORTH initiatives			partners						WORTH members received credit out of 5,881 members.
F: Percentage of target population that views GBV as less acceptable after participating in or being exposed to USG programming	Outcome	Citizens from SB areas, baseline, perception, and endline surveys	District, project phase, ethnicity, age groups	No	LNGOs/IPs	Semi-annual	--	62%	NA	67%	Data Source: Perception Survey III
Proportion of LNGOs that have an improved Organizational Performance Index (OPI) score	Outcome	OPI reports from LNGOs/OPI Assessment	District	No	Pact	Semi-annual	--	90%	90%	80%	Only one organization has been reviewed (baseline data was collected from a second one). Other organizations will be reviewed by the end of February.
Proportion of supported FM radio stations that produce quality radio programs that address issues on local government, youth, women, disadvantaged groups	Outcome	FM radio stations, EA, radio program electronic copy, Radio Program Quality Assessments	District	Yes	EA	Annually	--	90%	80%	80%	All 8 production partners have produced quality radio programs this quarter.

ANNEX 2: ADDITIONAL TABLES AND FIGURES

FIGURE 3: ETHNICITY BREAKDOWN OF NEW CMS

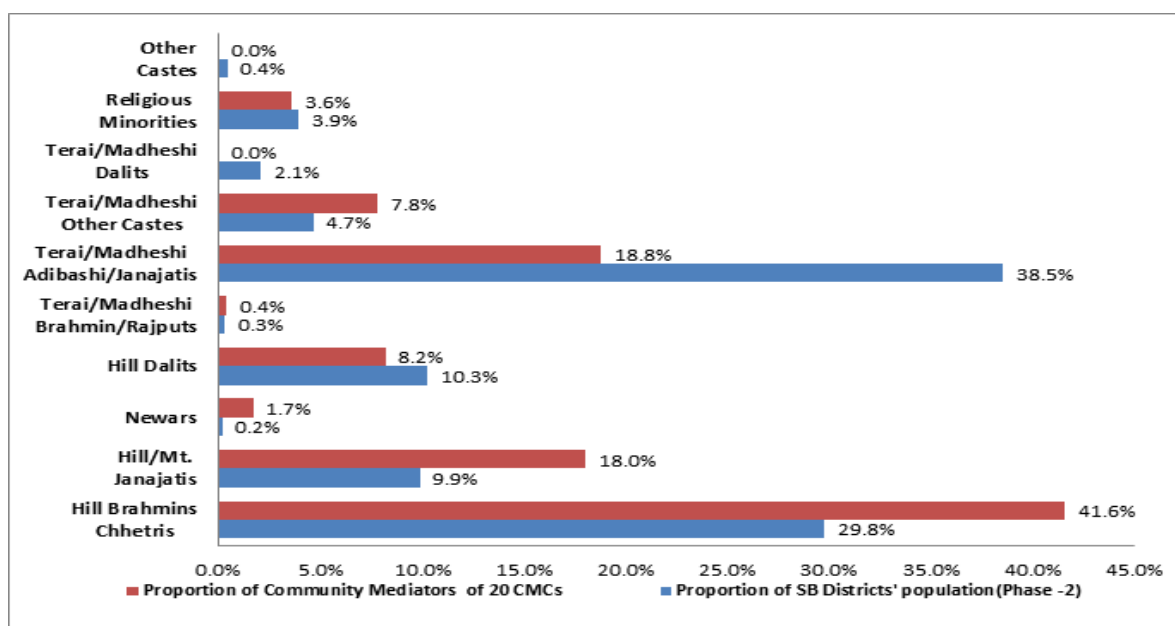


FIGURE 4: CMC FIRST PARTY GESI BREAKDOWN

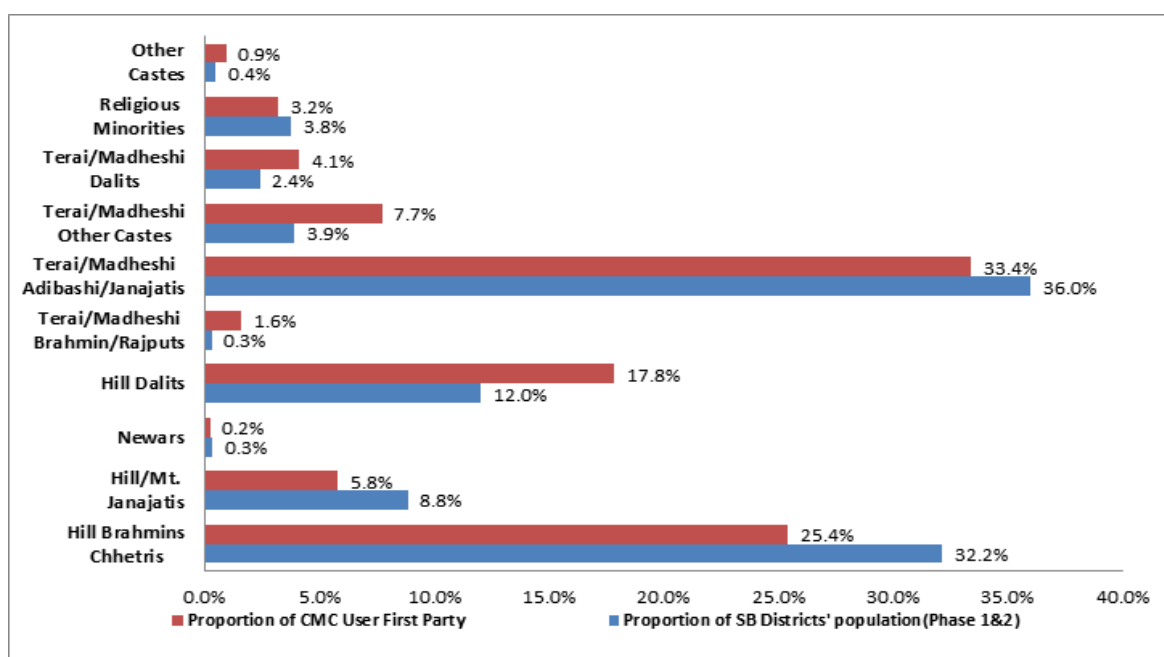


FIGURE 5: CMC COORDINATOR GESI BREAKDOWN

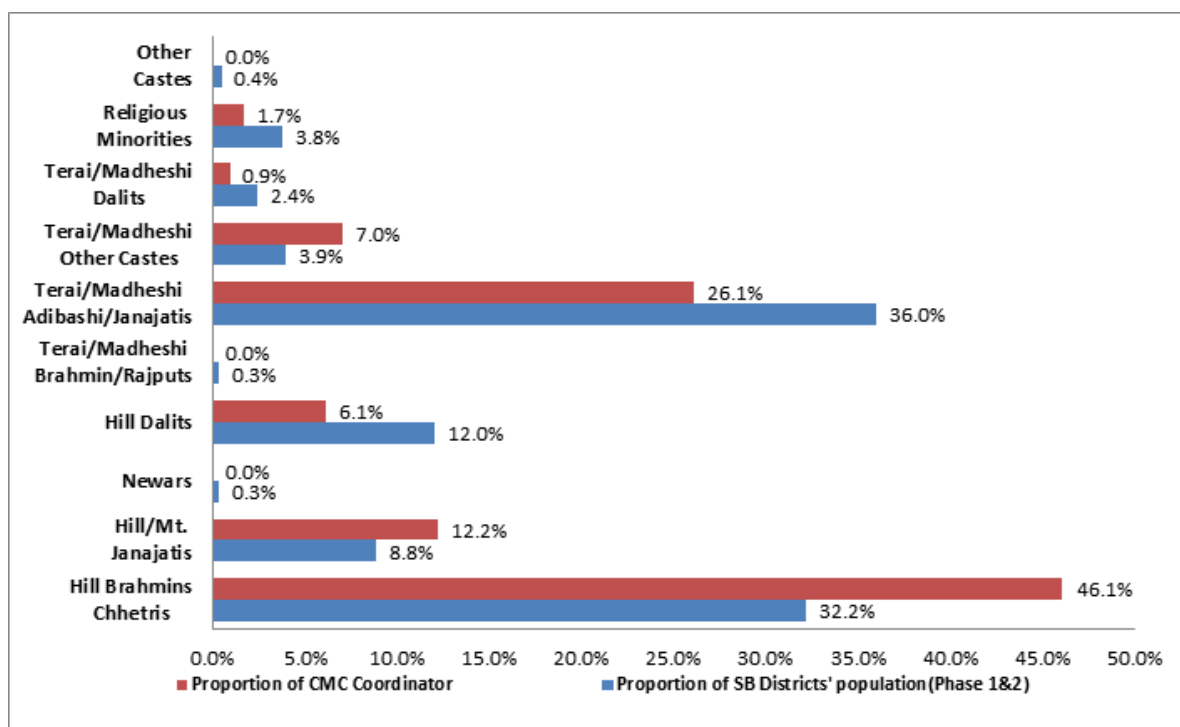


TABLE 6: COMPARISON OF ACTIVE VS. INACTIVE MEDIATORS BY GENDER (BARDIYA)

Gender	Total Mediators	%	Active	%	Inactive	%
Male	136	62%	107	79%	29	21%
Female	83	38%	67	81%	16	19%

TABLE 7: COMPARISON OF ACTIVE VS. INACTIVE MEDIATORS BY CASTE/ETHNICITY (BARDIYA)

Member Caste Ethnicity Code	Active	% as per the Representation Ratio	Inactive	% as per the Representation Ratio	Grand Total
Hill B/C	65	72%	25	28%	90
Hill/Mountain Janajatis	10	83%	2	17%	12
Newars	1	100%	0	0	1
Hill Dalits	11	61%	7	39%	18
Terai/Madhesi Brahmins/Rajputs	2	100%	0	0%	2
Terai/Madhesi Janajatis/Adivasis	67	86%	11	14%	78
Terai/Madhesi Other Castes	11	100%	0	0%	11
Terai/Madhesi Dalits	1	100%	0	0%	1
Religious Minorities	6	100%	0	0%	6
Grand Total	174		45		219

TABLE 8: DISAGGREGATED DATA OF REASONS FOR BEING INACTIVE

Reason behind being inactive	Hill Brahmins/Chhetris		Hill/Mountain Janajatis		Hill Dalits		Terai/Madhesi Janajatis/Adivasis		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Engaged in other activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Foreign employment	4	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	8
Gone to India	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	6
House workload	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Marital migration	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Migration	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	7
Out of contact	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Out of nepal	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	5
Personal reason	2	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	7

Started self-business	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	5
Actively engaged in politics	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Full-time employee in other agencies	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Engaged in other activities	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	17	8	1	1	4	3	7	4	45

TABLE 9: RATIO WITH GENDER AND CASTE/ETHNICITY OF CMS WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN OTHER MECHANISMS (AFTER THEY BECAME MEDIATOR)

Gender	Member Caste Ethnicity Code	Active CMs	# of CMs Involved in Other Mechanisms (after being a mediator)	% of Active Mediators Empowered by Being Involved as Mediators
Male	Hill Brahmin/Chhetri	39	25	64%
	Hill/Mountain Janajatis	6	5	83%
	Hill Dalits	6	5	84%
	Terai/Madhesi Janajatis/Adivasis	44	32	72%
	Terai/Madhesi Other Castes	7	4	57%
	Terai/Madhesi Dalits	1	1	100%
	Religious Minorities	4	3	75%
Total Active Males		107	75	70%
Female	Hill Brahmin/Chhetri	26	21	81%
	Hill/Mountain Janajatis	4	2	50%
	Newars	1	1	100%
	Hill Dalits	5	2	40%
	Terai/Madhesi Brahmins/Rajputs	2	2	100%
	Terai/Madhesi Janajatis/Adivasis	23	17	74%
	Terai/Madhesi Other Castes	4	4	100%
	Religious Minorities	2	0	0%
Total Active Females		67	49	73%

FIGURE 6: WORTH MEMBER GESI BREAKDOWN

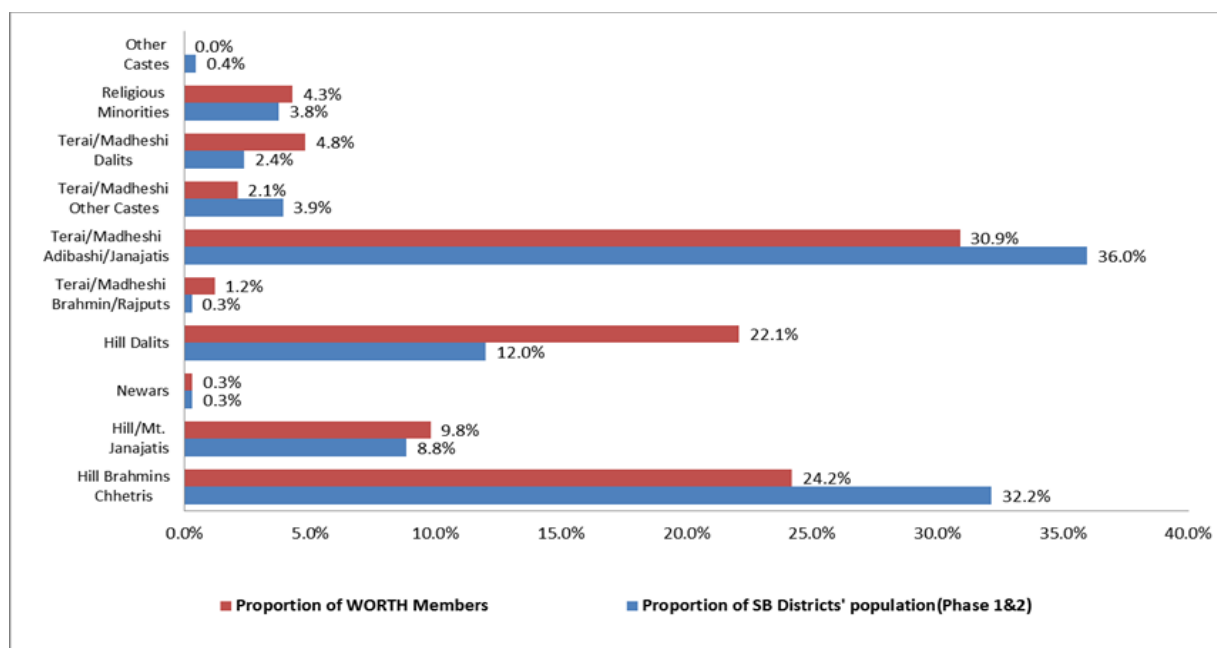


FIGURE 7: WORTH GESI BREAKDOWN OF TRAINING PARTICIPANTS

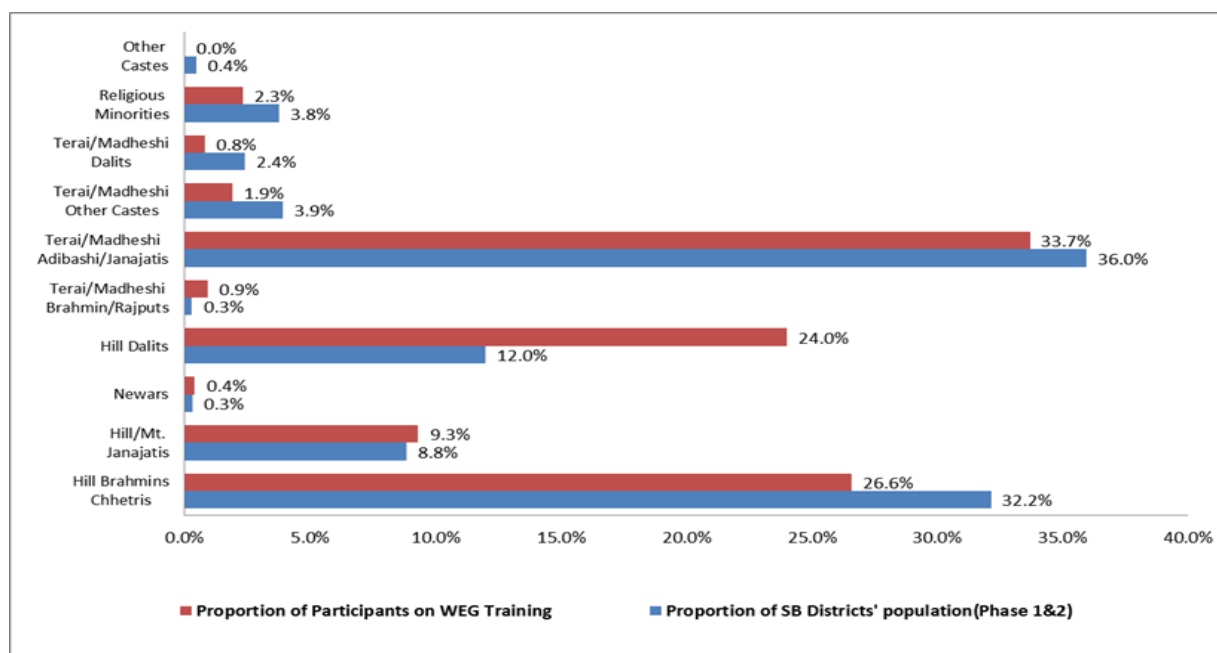


TABLE 10: YOUTH ACROSS SB COMPONENTS

Caste/Ethnicity	RLG	CMC	WORTH	Total	Gender
Hill Brahmin/Chhetris	742	786	1,119	2,647	M: 2,222 F: 8,116
Hill/Mountain Janajatis	363	241	485	1,089	
Newars	5	15	15	35	
Hill Dalits	473	210	1091	1,774	
Terai/Madhesi Brahmin/Rajput	37	25	61	123	
Terai/Madhesi Janajati/Adivasi	1,328	617	1,621	3,566	
Terai/Madhesi Other Castes	175	144	100	419	
Terai/Madhesi Dalits	77	26	207	310	
Religious Minorities	113	55	187	355	
Others	20	0	0	20	
Total	3,333	2,119	4,886	10,338	

TABLE 11: YOUTH ACROSS SB COMPONENTS

Caste/Ethnicity	Age Group: 16-25			Age Group: 26-40			Total			
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	%
Hill Brahmin/Chhetri	818	280	1,098	1,179	370	1,549	1,997	650	2,647	25.60
Hill/Mountain Janajati	360	112	472	455	163	618	815	275	1,090	10.54
Newar	11	0	11	18	6	24	29	6	35	0.34
Hill Dalit	697	125	822	826	124	950	1,523	249	1,772	17.14
Terai/Madhesi Brahmin/Rajput	40	15	55	46	22	68	86	37	123	1.19
Terai/Madhesi Janajati/Adivasi	1,522	330	1,852	1,395	320	1,715	2,917	650	3,567	34.50
Terai/Madhesi Other Castes	105	84	189	119	111	230	224	195	419	4.05
Terai/Madhesi Dalits	95	23	118	167	25	192	262	48	310	3.00
Religious Minorities	94	49	143	149	63	212	243	112	355	3.43
Others	13	0	13	7	0	7	20	0	20	0.19
Total	3,755	1,018	4,773	4,361	1,204	5,565	8,116	2,222	10,338	100.00

FIGURE 8: YOUTH ACROSS SAJHEDARI

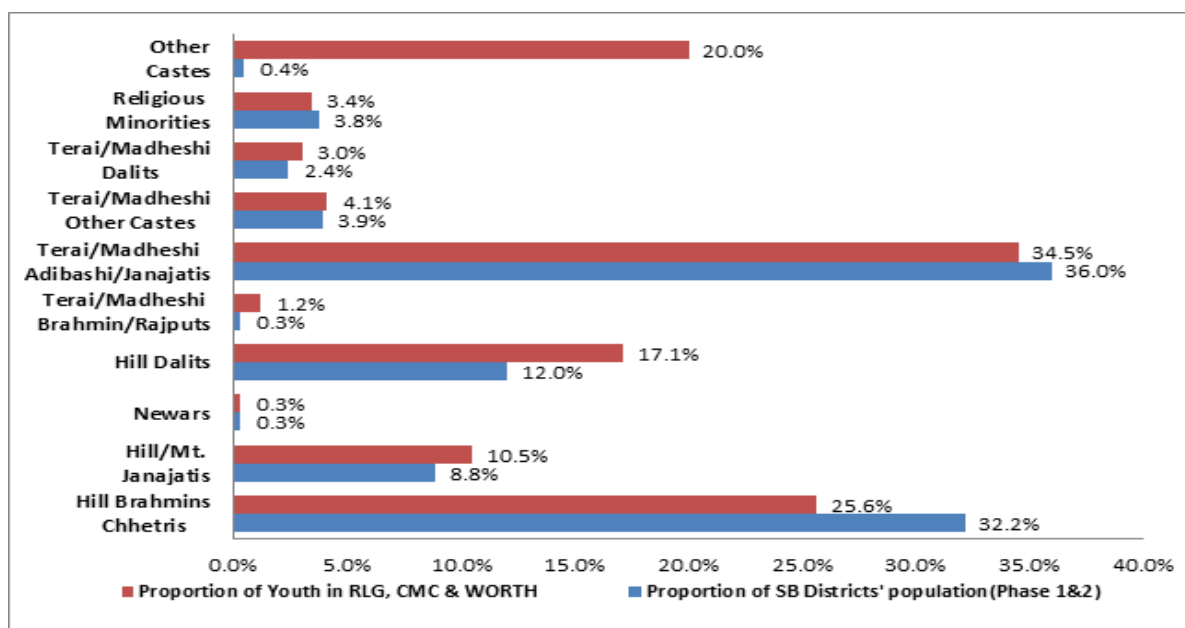


TABLE 12: TOPICS COVERED IN RADIO SHOW EPISODES IN Q1

Radio Show	Topics
<i>Naya Nepal</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good governance • MCPM in local bodies • Formation of WCF • Block grant utilization • Accountability tools • Participatory and inclusive development planning • CMC effectiveness • VDCs and community mediation • Role of CMCs in reducing violence against women and youth
<i>Saathi Sanga Manka Kura</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptance of LGBT in the family and society • WASH • Financial literacy
<i>Sajhedari</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good governance • Women's empowerment groups • Youth empowerment and inclusion • ADR • GESI • Locally-specific information on the role of citizens in the 14-step local-level planning process • WCFs • Citizen Awareness Centers • Participation of marginalized groups in the local development process • User Committees • GBV • Women's empowerment groups

TABLE 13: RADIO LISTENERS GROUP FEEDBACK

District	VDC	RLG	Comments
Dang	Hekuli	Ujjalo	The live conversation of community members and service providers should be broadcast rather than recorded programs.
Dang	Dharna	Chinari	<i>Sajhedari</i> mostly features male voices from the RLG; the program should also feature the voices of female RLG members from our VDC.
Dang	Shishhaniya	Jana Priya	The <i>Naya Nepal</i> prize should be distributed to all six districts rather than just one.
Kailali	Pratappur	Samjhana	The MCPM information is quite good; we now understand that it is important for VDC improvement.
Kailali	Thapapur	Dip Jyoti Mahila	We want to know the difference between the services provided by the municipality and VDCs.
Banke	Khaskhusma	Rapti	The program should cover the Sixteen Days Campaign Against GBV because women in rural areas are not aware of it.
Banke	Kanchanapur	Sunaulo Bihani	The program should have more coverage of child marriage because children are mostly unaware of its negative consequences.
Banke	Mahadevpuri	Pushpanjali	The program should highlight the need to stop violence against women at the household level.
Surkhet	Dasharathapur	Kriyashil	We want to know what the conditions are for MCPMs at the VDC level.
Surkhet	Neta	Samabesi	We want to know that what types of conflict are handled by the CMCs at the VDC level.
Surkhet	Mehalkuna	Toribari	We want to hear the role of community mediation centers in mitigating domestic violence.
Kanchanpur	Pipladi	Pragati	There is a lot of damage caused by the river in our village; the radio program should also cover infrastructure topics.
Bardiya	Patabhar	Karnali Youth	The <i>Naya Nepal</i> program is quite good, but it should add more coverage of child labor and youth employment.
Bardiya	Manpurtapara	Jana Jagriti	Each <i>Sajhedari</i> program should be broadcast twice a week.

TABLE 14: STORIES PRODUCED BY FEMALE AND INDIGENOUS JOURNALISTS

Reporter	District	Story Subject	Date of Publication/ Broadcast	Media Outlet
Gita Thapa	Surkhet	Disputes in the village settled by the CMC	August 26, 2015	Sajha Bisauni Daily, Birendranagar, Surkhet
		Flood affected women felt insecure in displaced camp	December 23, 2015	Sajha Bisauni Daily, Birendranagar, Surkhet
Sunita Panta	Surkhet	Women in development: Motivated for bettering and building their own villages	September 2, 2015	Surkhet Patra Daily, Birendranagar, Surkhet
Karishma Chaudhary	Surkhet	Delay in constructing Tharu Museum in Surkhet	16/12/2015	Radio Surkhet, Birendranagar, Surkhet
		Women self-dependence: Dream vs Reality	17/12/2015	Radio Surkhet, Birendranagar, Surkhet
Rita Lama	Dang	Youth are highly active in local development through SB initiative	August 31, 2015	Rapti Post, Daily, Ghorahi, Dang
		Women Health: How culture is becoming more challenging for women	September 2, 2015	Rapti Post, Daily, Ghorahi, Dang
Sunita Chaudhary	Dang	Youth entrepreneurship and contribution in local development	August 13, 2015	Radio Madhyapaschim, Ghorahi, Dang
Parbati Basnet	Dang	Changes seen in women's life after they join women groups	August 17, 2015	Radio Program- Mahila Sanchar- Radio Swargadwari FM, Ghorahi, Dang
Satosh Dahit	Dang	Revival of Bhuiyar: A cultural place for Tharu	December 1, 2015	Lauwa Agrasan Weekly, Ghorahi, Dang
		<i>Badghar, Bhalmansa and Mathawa</i> - Examples of good leadership in Tharu community	January 2, 2016	Rapti Samachar Dainik, Ghorahi, Dang
Pabitra Pariyar	Banke	Micro credit groups and its impacts in the lives of women	November 30, 2015	Pratibodh FM, Kohalpur, Banke
Rupani GM	Banke	Changes in women's lives after their involvement in SB	October 30, 2015	Radio Bageshwori, Nepalgunj, Banke
		Stories of victims of gender-based violence	December 10, 2015	Radio Bageshwori, Nepalgunj, Banke
Sadiksha Shah	Banke	Economic empowerment after involvement in SB	December 16, 2015	Margarekha Daily, Nepalgunj, Banke
Binay Dixit	Banke	The literacy problem in the Madhesi	December 22, 2015	Dainik, Nepalgunj, Banke

		community: A case study of Indrapur		
Januka Rawal	Kailali	Leadership development of women after involvement with CMC	August 24, 2015	Kailali FM, Sukhad, Kailali
Ganga Bhandari	Kailali	Significant impact of CMC	August 20, 2015	Dinesh FM, Dhangadhi, Kailali
Nanda Mahara	Kanchanpur	Changes seen in women life after they get involved in micro-grant activities	October 30, 2015	Mahakali FM, Mahendranagar, Kanchanpur
Priyanka BK	Kanchanpur	Roles of youth in social change	November 18, 2015	Farwest Times Daily, Mahendranagar, Kanchanpur
Kusum B. K.	Bardiya	Self-Employed youth motivating others for self-employment	August 26, 2015	Radio Fulbari FM, Gulariya, Bardiya

FIGURE 9: ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS ETHNICITY

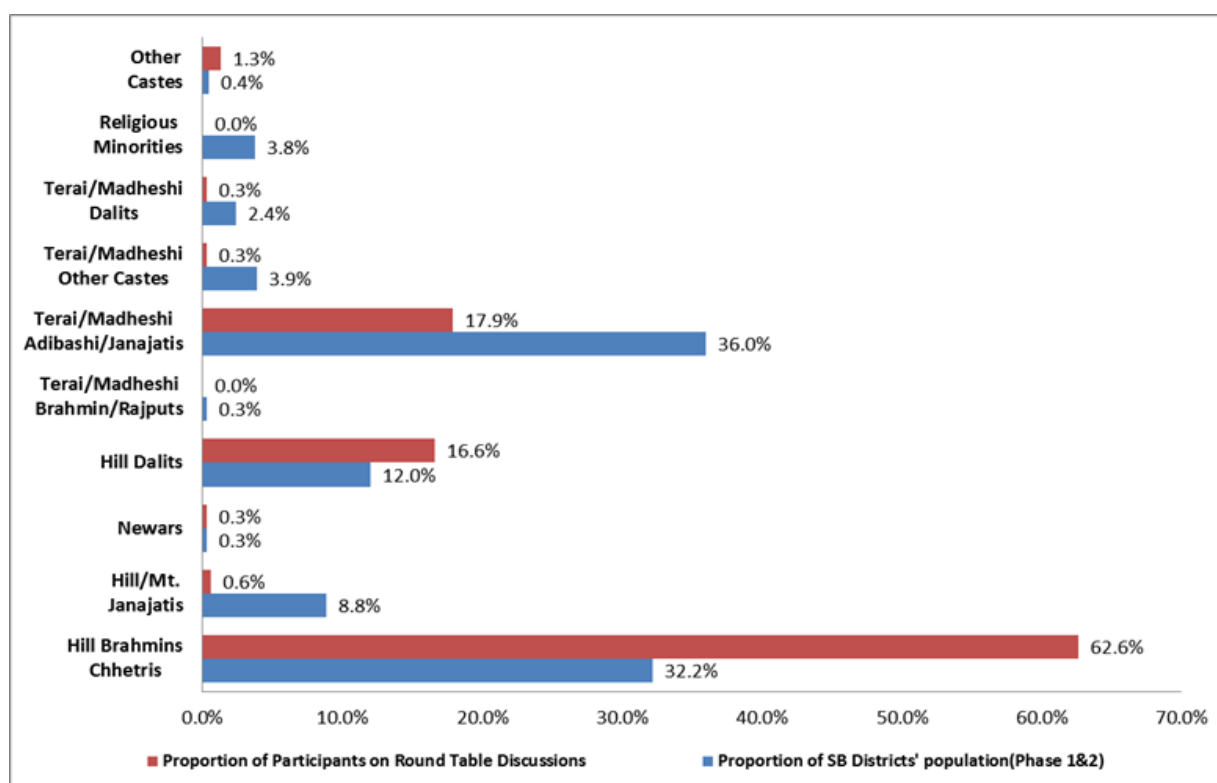


FIGURE 10: RLG PARTICIPANTS ETHNICITY

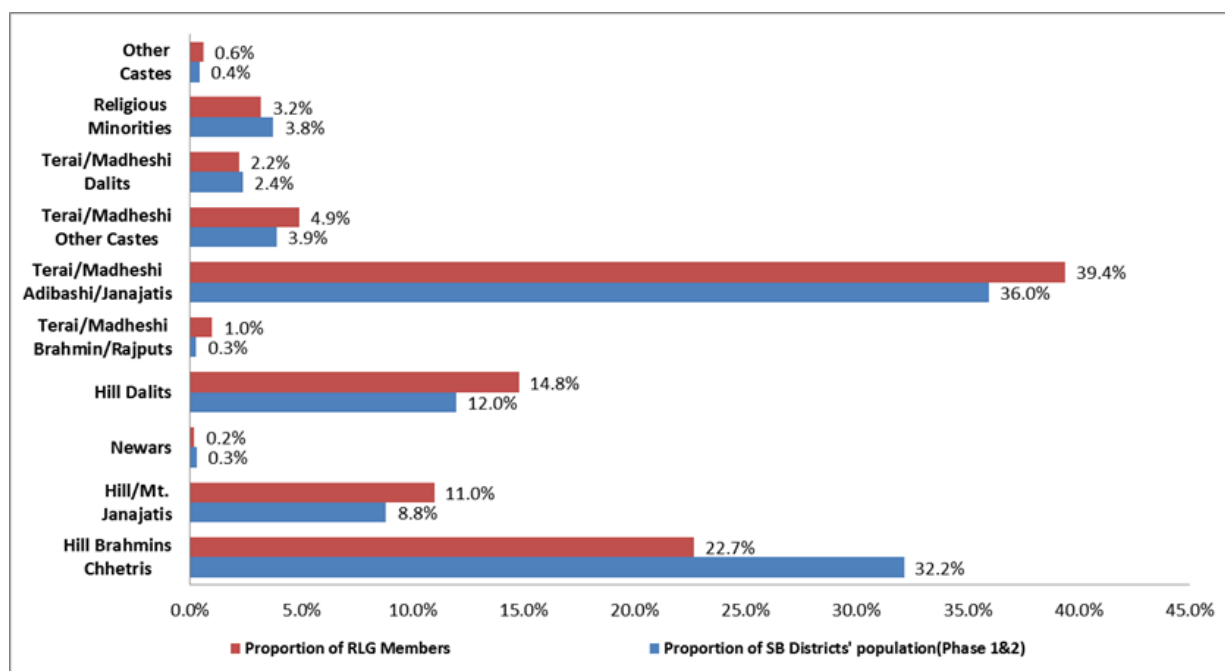


FIGURE 11: WCF MEETINGS GESI

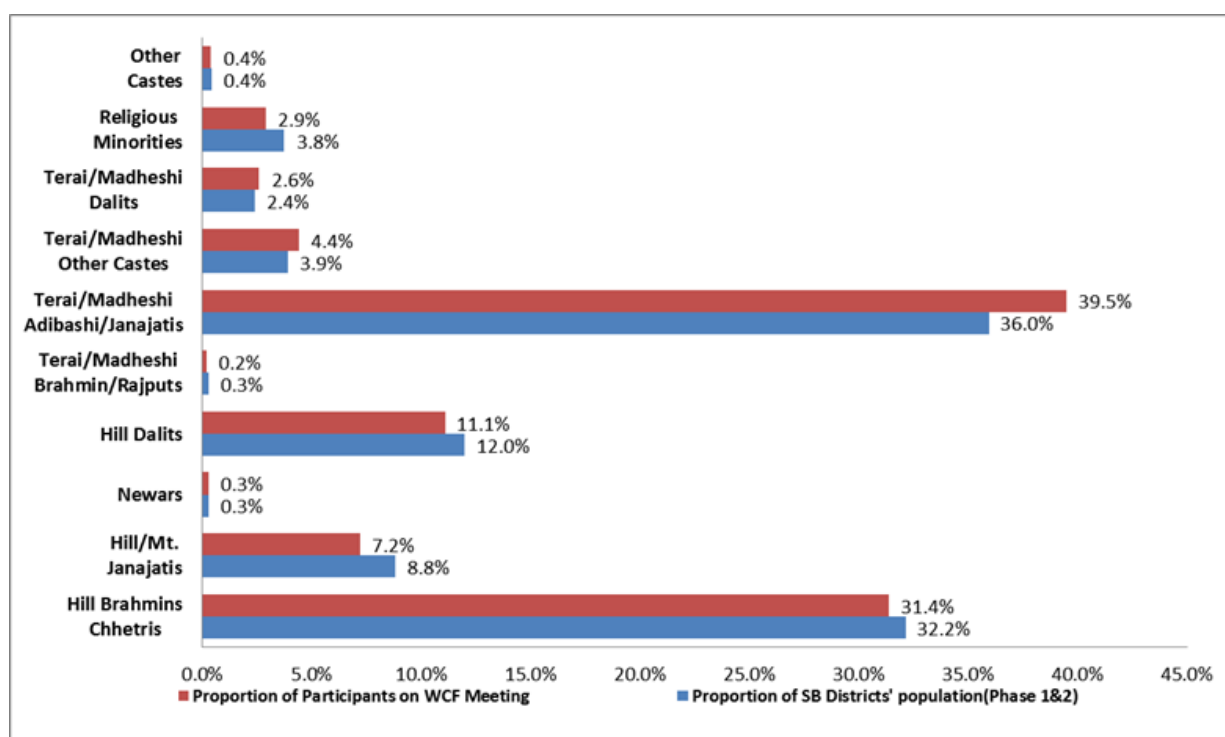


FIGURE 12: VOCATIONAL TRAINING EMPLOYMENT

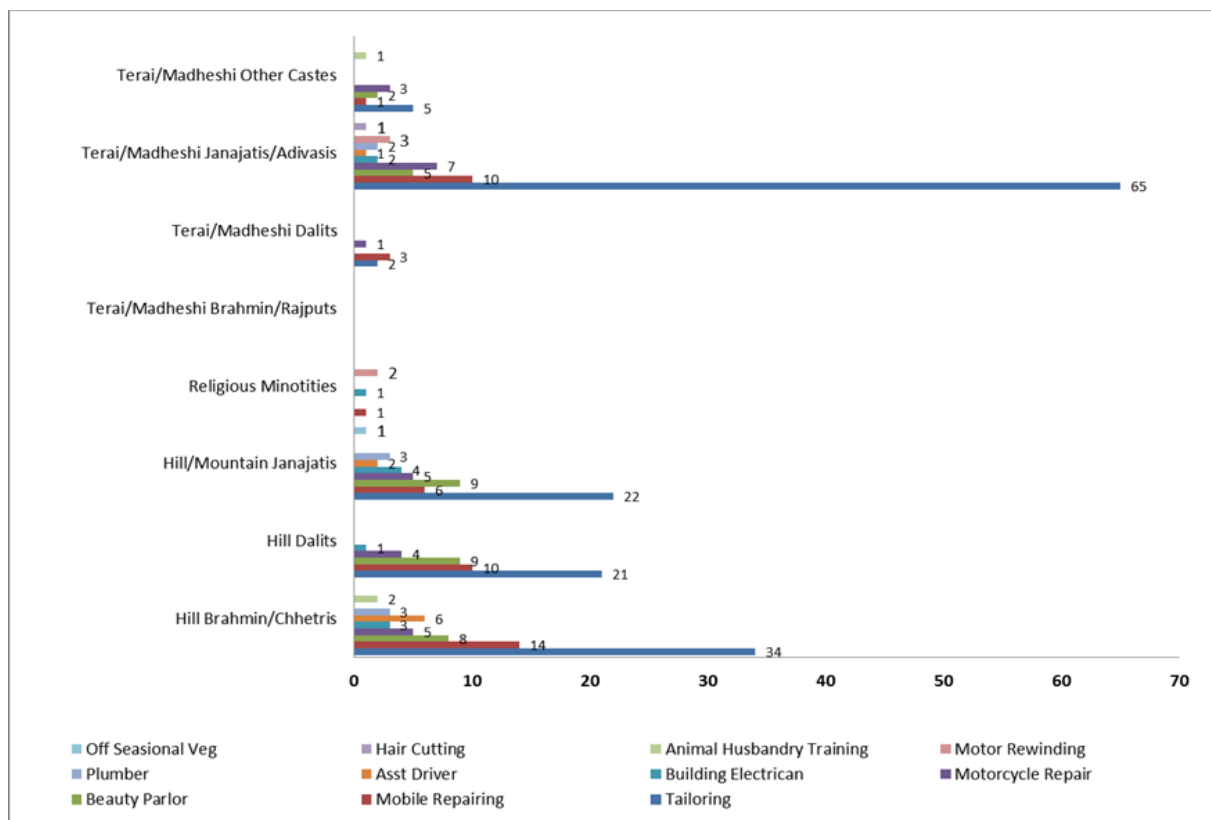
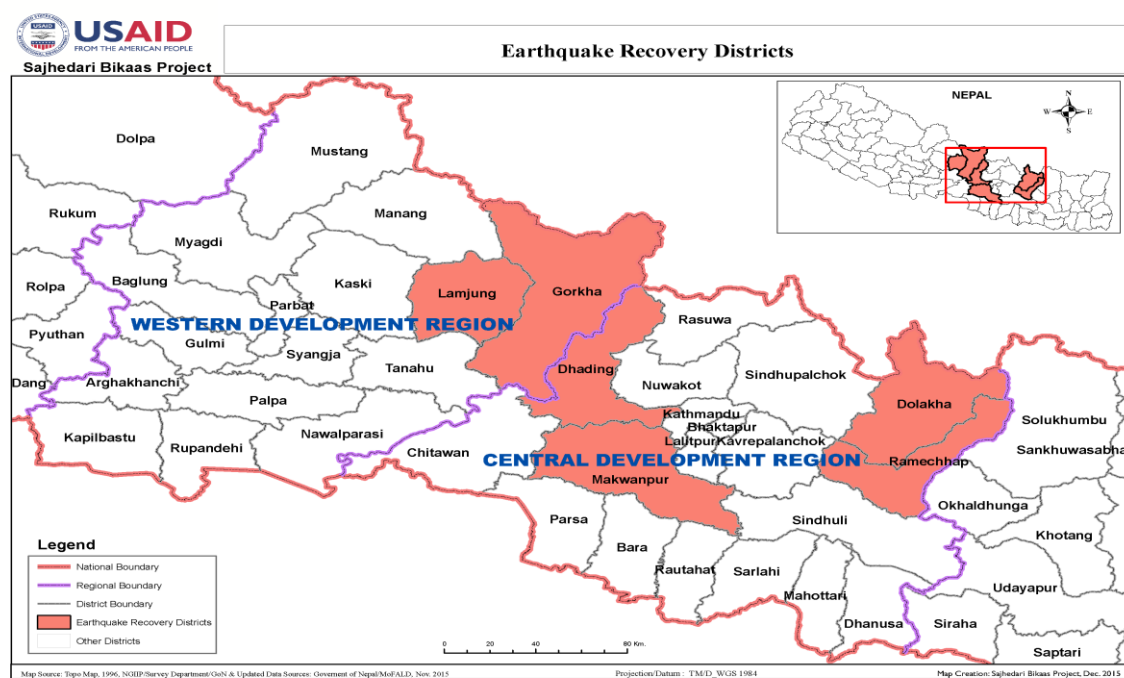


FIGURE 13: EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY DISTRICTS



ANNEX 3: SUCCESS STORIES



VDCs using VERS and accounting software



VERS Training Participant

SB conducted two Vital Event Registration System (VERS) software trainings for 68 government officials in coordination with MoFALD. Following the trainings, Thapapur VDC in Kailali district began replacing handwritten documents by using VERS software to record vital events such as birth, death, marriage, divorce, and migration. Between May and December 2015, Thapapur VDC registered 850 vital events and is among 20 VDCs in Kailali and Dang that have started to use VERS software.

DDCs and MoFALD can now access information on vital events once VDC officials have uploaded the data. Previously, VDCs only shared the number of specific events registered without any description of the events. SB's support, including computers and solar backup kits, has enabled VDCs like Thapapur to efficiently maintain accurate records of vital events, enhance service delivery by providing printed certificates to citizens, and provide detailed reports as needed.

Roshan Kumar Oli, assistant accountant in Mahadevpuri VDC in Banke district, started using the VDC accounting software following the SB/MoFALD training. According to Mr. Oli, "The computer-based accounting reduces workload, provides uniformity in calculation with fixed budget line items, and ensures ease and accuracy in reporting." Since vouchers cannot be edited or deleted once entered, the software maintains the integrity of entries, and helps to make VDC expenses transparent. The software enables VDC officials to produce various reports in a timely manner and according to different categories.

The software provides DDCs and the Ministry remote access to VDCs' accounting data, and provides easily identifiable internal revenue data to form VDC budgets. To date, 34 VDCs in six SB districts replaced manual accounting with the VDC accounting software system.

Radio Listeners Groups Raising Awareness on the VDC Planning Process



Workshop on Planning Process



Workshop Participants

When the Sadepani and Kanchan RLGs discovered that large numbers of community people had inadequate information about the CAC, WCF, and how to navigate the local-level planning process, they organized a three-day workshop on the participatory planning process in November. The aim of the workshop was to educate community members on successful civic participation.

Chandra Chaudhary said that, although she is the Ward 6 WCF Coordinator, she had never had the chance to participate in such a program and learn about civic engagement. After completing the workshop, she stated, "Now I understand better about the 14-step planning process, and will start participatory meetings in my WCF."

RLG member, Shanker Dangaura, said, "This type of program has brought community members together, and it is our success to invite the Program Officer of Ghoda-Ghodi Municipality in our program to provide information about the 14-step planning process and peoples' participation at the ward-level meetings. It was our good luck that he came, facilitated the meeting, and encouraged us."

The facilitator of the Kanchan RLG, Sujarika Mahato, stated, "When the members of our RLG found the problem of awareness about the local planning process, we felt the need to organize a three-day awareness program. I used to participate without any voice of mine. Now I realize that this was my mistake, and further, I will speak about the problem to my community."

ANNEX 4: PROGRESS AGAINST WORK PLAN

Workplan Q1 Monthly Tracker (Oct.-Dec. 2015)

							Completed
							Ongoing
							Postponed/Canceled
Activity	15-Oct	15-Nov	15-Dec	Lead	Status	On Schedule?	Remarks
Monitoring and Evaluation							
Conduct RDQA monitoring				Pact	Ongoing	Yes	
Conduct thematic outcome assessments				Pact	Postponed	No	The activity will be conducted in March.
Conduct GIS mapping				Pact	Ongoing	Yes	
Submit annual report				Pact	Complete	Yes	
Baseline survey for recovery districts				Pact	Postponed	No	Delayed due to the fuel crisis. Pact is finalizing the mythology and will issue an RFP in February for a consulting firm to conduct the baseline/midterm/endline surveys.
Convene quarterly progress review and planning workshops				Pact	Complete	Yes	
Objective A: Enabling environment for community development established							
Conduct and disseminate final conflict assessment				Saferworld	Ongoing	Yes	Preparation workshop organized in December; report will be submitted by March.

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)																
Phase 1 VDCs																
Operate CMCs													CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Conduct CMC assessment													CeLRRd	Ongoing	No	Delayed because of fuel crisis, but this is ongoing now. 17 CMC assessments completed and six handed over to VDCs.
Quarterly practice sharing													CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Social Marketing													CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Handover CMCs to VDCs													CeLRRd	Ongoing	No	12 CMCs handed over; the remaining from Phase 2 VDCs will be completed in February.
Review meeting with SMS Reporters (cluster-level)													CeLRRd	Canceled	No	The activity is deleted from the SB workplan in consultation with USAID. See 2.2.1 SMS-based conflict mapping.
Phase 2 VDCs																
Initiate social marketing (billboards, school-based campaigns, etc.)													CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Operate new CMCs													CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Convene quarterly VDC-level practice sharing meetings													CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Select and train new CMs based on GESI guidelines													CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Basic mediation Training													CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Establish new CMCs													CeLRRd	Ongoing	No	Since BMT could only be completed towards the end of Q1; only 20 CMCs could be established out of a targeted 24 this quarter.
Social marketing													CeLRRd	Ongoing	No	Only four CMCs conducted social marketing. All remaining CMCs from core districts will conduct social marketing next quarter.
Convene VDC-level monthly meetings													CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Convene quarterly VDC-level practice sharing meetings													CeLRRd	Ongoing	No	All 32 CMCs formed in Phase 2 VDCs conducted VDC-level practice sharing meetings. There was a small delay because of late BMT completion.
Regional-level review and reflection workshop													CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Coordination with MoFALD													CeLRRd	Ongoing	Yes	Four rounds of meetings held.
Orientation on SMS-based conflict mapping system													CeLRRd	Canceled	No	The activity is deleted from the SB workplan in consultation with USAID. See 2.2.1 SMS-based conflict mapping.

Coordination meeting with DMMC															CeLRRd	Canceled	No	Meetings are postponed to next quarter because there were changes in the DMMC membership, including chairpersons.
District-level VDC coordinators monthly meeting															CeLRRd	Complete	Yes	
Success story Documentation															CeLRRd	Postponed	No	Postponed and planned for next quarter.
Women's Economic Groups (WORTH)																		
Phase 1 VDCs																		
Conduct 15 skill-building training packages for groups															WORTH-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	
Orient literacy volunteers for WORTH groups															WORTH-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Conduct weekly literacy classes															WORTH-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	
Conduct consultation visits to VDCs/DDCs and local stakeholders															WORTH-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Conduct semi-annual VDC and NGO review and reflection workshops															WORTH-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Conduct results' survey															WORTH-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	
Mobilize interns to mentor women's groups															WORTH-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	
Conduct periodic mobile workshops															WORTH-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Conduct 16 Days' of Activism Against GBV events															WORTH-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Orientations on business and microenterprises															WORTH-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Conduct management committee training															WORTH-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	
Phase 2 VDCs																		
VDC-level consultation with stakeholders															WORTH-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
WORTH group assessment															WORTH-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
WORTH group revival/ formation															WORTH-NGOs	Postponed	No	WEG assessments in 44 VDCs and 4 Municipalities were completed. All WORTH NGOs are in the process of entering and analyzing data. Based on the assessments, WORTH groups will be formed in the next quarter.

Conduct management committee training														WORTH-NGOs	Postponed	No	This training will be conducted after WORTH groups are formed.
Conduct results survey														WORTH-NGOs	Postponed	Yes	WORTH NGOs conducted 966 Result Surveys of 39 Phase 1 WORTH groups in 12 VDCs in Surkhet this quarter. The remaining surveys will be conducted in the next quarter.
Mobilize interns to mentor women's groups														WORTH-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	Eight interns (four female, four male) in Phase 1 and 10 interns (seven female, three male) in Phase 2 VDCs are mobilized.
Youth in Development																	
Phase 1 VDCs																	
Conduct Dialogue Series (include youth policy dialogue)														YI	Postponed	No	VDCs were closed in Kailali and Kanchanpur due to political unrest. Eight dialogues remaining.
Conduct Advocacy and Community Development Activities														YI	Postponed	No	Delayed due to political unrest, but 167 CDAs conducted out of 174 in Phase 1 VDCs.
Linkages with other SB components														YI	Ongoing	No	Delayed, but YI is now coordinating with SB governance staff for local planning process training for youth and participation.
Initiate National Youth Service														YI	Complete	Yes	
Conduct LYG meetings														YI	Ongoing	No	158 out of a targeted 174 completed this quarter. YI will catch up in the next quarter.
Phase 2 VDCs																	
Train LYGs and DYGs on the local planning process														YI	Completed	Yes	
Strengthening CMUs (changed to CMU meetings in the WP-4)														YI	Postponed	Yes	
Organize VDC-level consultations														YI	Complete	Yes	
Youth dialogue series														YI	Complete	Yes	
Conduct advocacy and community development activities														YI	Ongoing	Yes	This activity will be continued throughout Year 4.
Conduct linkage activities with other SB components														YI	Ongoing	Yes	
Establish and orient CMUs/LYGs														YI	Complete	Yes	

Media in Development																
Phase 1 VDCs																
Produce central level radio programs - <i>Naya Nepal</i> and <i>SSMK</i>													EA	Complete	Yes	
Produce local level radio program - <i>Sajhedari</i>													EA	Complete	Yes	
Convene Local Level Content Advisory Group meetings - <i>Sajhedari</i>													EA	Complete	Yes	
Produce and broadcast PSA													EA	Complete	Yes	
Convene stakeholder workshops (VDC level)													EA	Complete	Yes	
Initiate Community Reporter (CA) activities													EA	Complete	Yes	
Initiate Community Action Researcher (CAR) activities													EA	Complete	Yes	
Convene Radio Listener Group (RLG) meetings													EA	Complete	Yes	
Conduct RLG facilitators' training													EA	Complete	Yes	
Build capacity of FM stations on governance													EA	Complete	No	Activity was meant to be completed during July/August 2015, but rescheduled due to political unrest. Now completed.
Broadcast NN and SSMK													EA	Complete	Yes	
Broadcast local level radio program - <i>Sajhedari</i>													EA	Complete	Yes	
Ongoing Community Reporter activities													EA	Ongoing	Yes	This activity will be implemented throughout Year 4.
SMS/IVR system integration and utilization													EA	Complete	Yes	
Radio Listeners' Group (RLG) formation													EA	Complete	Yes	
Radio Listeners' Group meetings													EA	Ongoing	Yes	This activity will be implemented throughout Year 4.
Broadcast PSAs													EA	Complete	Yes	
Convene CAG and SAG meetings for <i>NN</i> and <i>SSMK</i>													EA	Complete	Yes	
Phase 2 VDCs																
Conduct youth utilizing social media for development workshops													EA	Complete	No	Activity was meant to be completed during July/August 2015, but rescheduled due to political unrest. Now completed.
Broadcast roundtable discussions													EA	Ongoing	No	Delayed, but now six roundtable discussions completed. EA will broadcast in January.
Produce and broadcast <i>NN</i> , <i>SSMK</i> and <i>Sajhedari</i>													EA	Complete	Yes	
Radio Listener Group (RLG) formation													EA	Complete	Yes	75 Phase 2 VDC groups were formed in Year 3
Continued micro-grants initiative													EA	Ongoing	Yes	Twenty-five micro grants already implemented. The remaining seven will be implemented in next quarter.

Ongoing Community Action Research activities															EA	Ongoing	Yes	This activity will be implemented throughout Year 4.
Monthly monitoring visits															EA	Complete	Yes	
Convene Critical Listening Feedback Session															EA	Complete	Yes	
Conduct Behavior Change Communication (BCC) workshop for FM stations															EA	Postponed	No	This is planned for Year 4.
Objective B: Communities Access Resources for Development																		
Phase 1 VDCs																		
Disburse micro- grants/sub-contracts for community initiatives															Pact/ G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Mobilize Interns in governance NGOs															G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Conduct vocational training as per VDC priorities															G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Technical Support VDC internal resource mapping and management plans															G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Support VDC revenue assessment and projection															G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Disseminate video on 14-step planning process															Pact/ G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Phase 2 VDCs																		
Activate and strengthen RMCs															G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Support VDC profile preparation															G-NGOs	Postponed	No	Consulting firm awarded contract and will begin profile preparation next quarter.
Revive VDC Monitoring Committee (quarterly meetings)															G-NGOs	Postponed	No	Will be implemented in next quarter (schedule taken from WP-3).
Orient WCFs on role in CACs															G-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	
Orient IPFCs on planning/resource mobilization/MCPM															G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Orient WCFs and CACs on PVDP															G-NGOs	Ongoing	No	Consulting firm awarded contract. This activity will take place in Year 4.
Convene focus group orientation on PVDP (women, youth, etc.)															G-NGOs	Postponed	No	Consulting firm awarded contract. This activity will take place in Year 4.
Provide technical support for VDC periodic plans															GNGOs	Postponed	No	Consulting firm awarded contract. This activity will take place in Year 4.
Bi-monthly WCF and CAC meetings															GNGOs	Complete	Yes	
Disseminate video on 14-step planning process															GNGOs	Ongoing	Yes	
Additional VDCs/Non-SB VDCs																		
Prepare Internal Revenue Assessment and Projections (IRAP)															G-NGOs	Canceled	No	

Provide technical support for preparation of PVDP														Pact	Postponed	No	This activity will start in the third quarter.
Technical support to VDCs to prepare VDC Profiles														G-NGOs	Postponed	No	This activity will start in the third quarter. .
Objective C: Communities Implement Inclusive Development Projects Effectively																	
Phase 2 VDCs																	
Conduct Sajhedari Chautari meetings														G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Train WCFs, CACs, other stakeholders on social accountability tools														G-NGOs	Postponed	No	Consulting firm awarded contract. This activity will start in the second quarter.
Conduct GOCA training for transparency, accountability, and inclusions														G-NGOs	Canceled	No	This activity and schedule was in WP-3, but is being replaced by Social Accountability Tools training and implementation through Y4 Workplan.
Conduct PMC training on micro-grant management														G-NGOs	Postponed	No	Micro-projects will be implemented throughout Year 4.
Post Citizen Charters														G-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	This activity started and will be completed in the second quarter.
Conduct <i>Sajhedari Chautari</i> meetings														G-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	This will be implemented throughout Year 4.
Objective D: Existing and new Local Government Units Function Effectively																	
Development and testing of enhanced models- Supported Accounting Software and VERS developed by Government tested models														Pact/ G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Mobilize interns in GNGOs														Pact/ G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	
Provide technical assistance to ministries and state actors														Pact	Ongoing	Yes	Consultation with MoFALD is ongoing.
Phase 2 VDCs																	
Public Expenditure Tracking (PET) study														Pact/ G-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	This activity is ongoing. Preliminary findings shared in the review and reflection workshop in the first quarter.
GRB orientation and GBAs in DDCs, VDCs, and municipalities														G-NGOs	Ongoing	Yes	Three events conducted with one DDC and two Municipalities.
Other Activities																	
Manage and monitor partner grant/subcontract														Pact	Ongoing	Yes	
Conduct annual GESI audit														Pact	Ongoing	Yes	
Convene SB partner coordination meetings (bi-monthly)														Pact	Complete	Yes	
Hold coordination meetings with USAID partners (quarterly)														Pact	Complete	Yes	This was organized by KISAN.
Conduct joint quarterly monitoring visits														Pact/ G-NGOs	Postponed	No	Postponed due to political unrest. This will take place in the third quarter.
Establish SB partner intranet														Pact	Complete	Yes	
Conduct bi-annual multi-stakeholder presentation														Pact	Complete	Yes	Organized by LGCDP and UNICEF.
Award Phase 2 LNGOs														Pact	Complete	Yes	

Convene Annual Partners' Meeting														Pact	Ongoing	No	Due to fuel crisis, national partners' meeting held in November and full partners' meeting postponed to March 2-4.
Convene monthly SB partner coordination meetings														Pact	Complete	Yes	
Bi-monthly staff meeting														G-NGOs	Complete	Yes	